

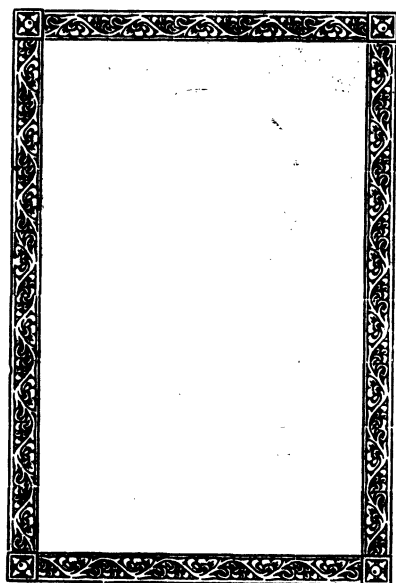
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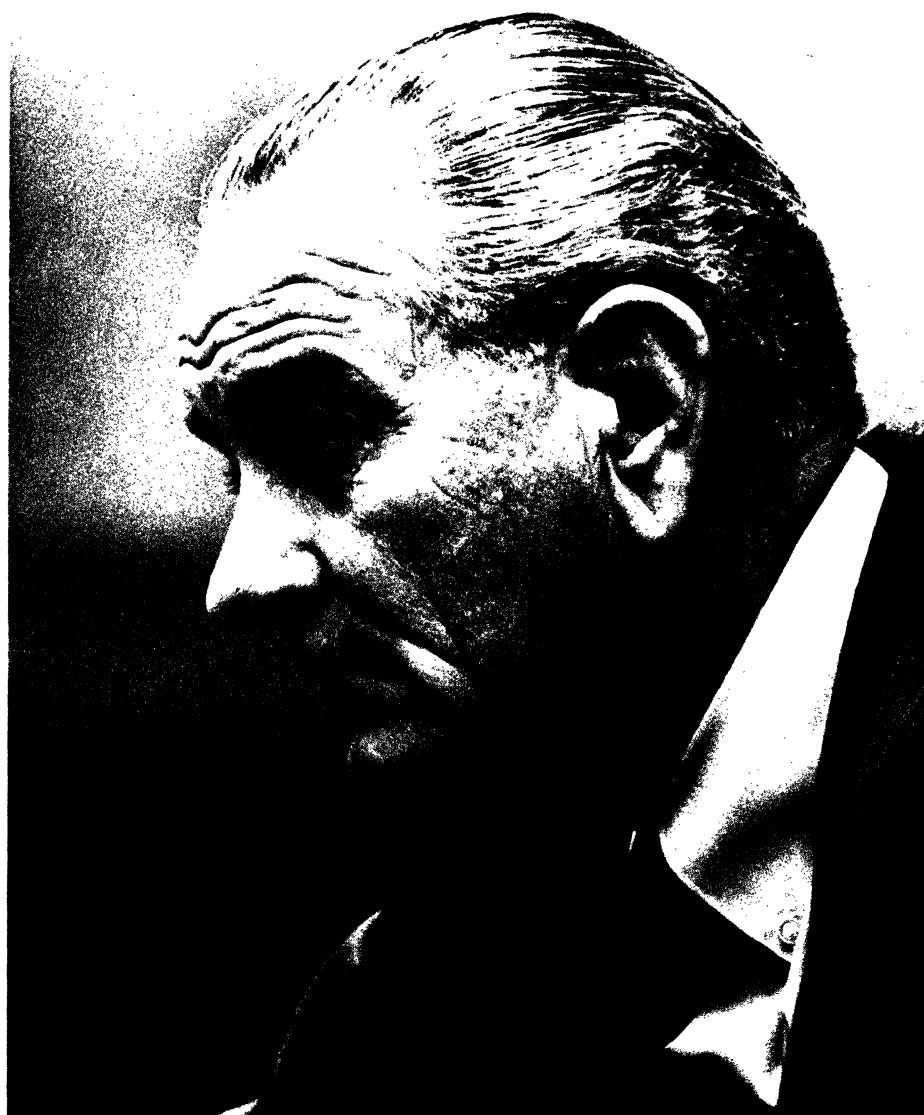
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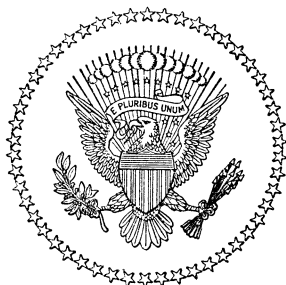
Lyndon B. Johnson

*Containing the Public Messages, Speeches, and
Statements of the President*

1967

(IN TWO BOOKS)

BOOK II—JULY 1 TO DECEMBER 31, 1967



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Lyndon B. Johnson

July 1–December 31, 1967

296 Remarks to the Conference of Democratic Governors in
St. Louis. July 1, 1967

EACH TIME a Democratic President meets with Democratic Governors, there is speculation that politics will be on the agenda.

My political message today is very simple. Sam Rayburn gave it to our party in 1948. Here is the essence of what he said—and it is as true now as it was two decades ago:

Despite what you might read in the newspapers from time to time, we're still the majority party in this country.

And the reason—Mr. Rayburn might have added—is that we are the party of action and progress.

Ours is the party that has broken through the old barriers that have marred American life too long:

- barriers to opportunity and equality,
- to education for all,
- to meaningful employment, and
- to decent health care for the old and the poor.

Ours is the party—the first one in history—that has delivered 90 percent of its platform. In doing that we have given the country the greatest record of legislative accomplishment in 175 years.

Today we continue this proud record.

I am signing the Older Americans Act of 1967. It is a further act of liberation for 19 million older citizens.

We have social security—and we are asking for more—to give them financial security.

We have Medicare—and we are improving it—to ease the crushing burdens that illness can bring.

Today we are celebrating Medicare's first anniversary. In 1 year's time, 4 million

older Americans have entered hospitals under the program; 200,000 have received home health service. Medicare has paid out \$2.4 billion for hospital care, and another \$640 million for other medical services.

The purpose of the act I sign today is not so much to add years to the lives of older men and women—but to add new life to the years they will have. Its purpose is to help them take a fuller part in the society that they—through all their lives and labors—helped to build.

That purpose cannot be accomplished in Washington. A compassionate Federal Government can provide the means—and this bill does just that. But the big job is yours—in the States and local communities. It is to create and manage your own programs to improve the quality of life for your older citizens.

The vitality of all our programs is that they share the purpose and the thrust of this one.

Their target is improving the quality of life—for all our citizens.

They offer practical solutions—in human terms—to the exploding problems of our times.

In developing those solutions—in making our programs work—we are giving our Federal system a strength and a meaning it has never had before.

Your role in our partnership is critical.

But to be effective, your hand must be strengthened. And today, I can tell you of one measure we are taking to accomplish just that.

Very shortly, at my direction, every one of you—every Governor in this country—will have a chance to review, to advise, and to consult on every Federal regulation involving programs in your State.

This is an historic breakthrough. It can have a revolutionary impact on our partnership, and your position in it. It will strengthen your ability to plan, to budget, to coordinate, to an extent never possible in the statehouse before.

Other measures will follow, to make your role stronger, and your job easier.

You know the seriousness of our purpose. Governor Farris Bryant has lead a team of top Federal officials into 40 States over the last 4 months, for meetings with Governors and their key administrative officials. He tells me that during these meetings, 1,333 separate problems or grievances were identified. Of these:

—733 were answered on the spot.

—456 were settled with quick followup action.

That leaves 144 queries still to be answered—just 11 percent.

Even when those questions have been cleared up—and I have given instructions that I want this done just as quickly as possible—we don't expect to rest. New problems arise each day, and each day new solutions must be searched for and found.

This is true of our entire program, as well.

Our pride is in the promise of our party, as well as in its performance.

Yesterday, with all its satisfaction, is gone. Tomorrow beckons ahead, and there is still work to be done—turning protest against emptiness into productive fulfillment.

Earlier this week, I visited a center in Philadelphia where I saw the next logical American step after protest.

It was a center for disadvantaged citizens.

The leaders of that center had protested—with full justice—a lack of job opportunities for Negroes. The business community listened—and made more opportunities available. But then the protesters found that there were not enough men and women with skills to fill the jobs that opened up.

Their response should inspire us all with deep pride—and faith in our future. They did not react in bitter frustration against the dead past. They set their eyes to the future. They rolled up their sleeves, and they built a place where Americans who might have lived out lives without hope could be trained, and made into productive, contributing members of our society.

Your Government helped to provide funds for that center—and there is no investment of which I am prouder. Business is contributing as well—and some labor and foundations and city government.

That can happen all over America. And it will—if we work to make it happen.

And to work to make it happen is the job which we Democrats have pledged ourselves to do. Our problems in America are great—but our opportunities are greater. Let us make the most of them in our time of leadership.

NOTE: The President spoke at 5:09 p.m. at the Mayfair Hotel in St. Louis, Mo., during a one-day working conference attended by 17 Democratic Governors. During his remarks he referred to Sam Rayburn, Representative from Texas 1913-1961, who served as Speaker of the House of Representatives 1940-1947, 1949-1953, 1955-1961, and Farris Bryant, Director of the Office of Emergency Planning and former Governor of Florida.

On the same day, the President issued a statement on the first anniversary of the Medicare program and signed the Older Americans Act Amendments of 1967 (see Items 298, 299).

For the President's remarks earlier in the week at the Opportunities Industrialization Center in Philadelphia, see Item 291.

As printed above, this item follows the text released by the White House Press Office.

297 The President's News Conference in St. Louis Following the Democratic Governors Conference. July 1, 1967

INTRODUCTION BY GOVERNOR HAROLD E.
HUGHES OF IOWA

GOVERNOR HUGHES. [1.] *Ladies and gentlemen:*

We have concluded our Democratic Governors Conference meeting for the day. We are very delighted that the President could find the time—late this afternoon when we called again to see if he could possibly come up and visit with us for a while—that he was able to make the trip.

We have had a very responsive time. We are here to, I think, say that probably the meeting today has been one of the best held in my experience in 9 years in public life in my own State.

There is certainly great confidence among all of us as we look to the future and I think, a great display of uniformity of thought for the Democratic Party, the Governors of the United States, and the President of the United States.

We are available for your questions. They can be directed to the President, Governor Hearnese, or myself, as you would desire, about any topics.

QUESTIONS

[2.] Q. Governor, was the statement of accord unanimously adopted? ¹

GOVERNOR HUGHES. No, it was not unanimously adopted. There were two Governors who abstained from voting on it.

Q. Could you tell us who they were?

¹ The Governors had issued a formal statement of accord prior to the President's arrival in which they supported his efforts to achieve peace in Vietnam, combat crime in the United States, and obtain equality of opportunity for all U.S. citizens.

GOVERNOR HUGHES. They were Governor McKeithen and Governor Maddox.

Q. Was the President satisfied with the conference?

GOVERNOR HUGHES. We had a very general meeting in which we asked the President if he would brief us as to the Far East and the Mid-East and the summit meetings that he had recently.

The briefing was of a confidential and restricted nature. In addition, beyond that, the President signed a bill.² Also, we had a lengthy discussion about the Federal programs, the programs passed by the Congress this year, those still lying before the Congress this year, our general purposes for our Nation and its people, both internationally and internally within the United States, and our hopes together as a political party, as well as a people, and looking forward to the campaign in 1968.

QUESTIONS TO THE PRESIDENT

THE MIDDLE EAST

[3.] Q. Does the President have any comments at this time as to developments this afternoon in the Middle East?

THE PRESIDENT. No. I have been kept aware of them, but that is the only comment I would make.

Q. Mr. President, have you activated the "hot line" at all today to contact the Soviet Union with respect to the activity this afternoon in the Middle East?

THE PRESIDENT. No.

Q. Mr. President, Pakistan has moved to—

² Older Americans Act Amendments of 1967 (see Item 299).

day to condemn the Israeli annexation of the city of Jerusalem. Would the United States support that resolution in the United Nations?

THE PRESIDENT. I would not want to state the United States position on any resolutions that will be stated in the United Nations. Ambassador Goldberg will do that in the appropriate place and at the appropriate time.

SUPPORT BY THE GOVERNORS AND THE PUBLIC

[4.] Q. Mr. President, could you tell us if this show of unity among the Governors today improves your political position for next year?

THE PRESIDENT. I am pleased to observe that it is very welcome.

Q. Mr. President, do you find any vestiges here at all of the spirit—

THE PRESIDENT. I think when the Governors support you and are behind you, you always improve.

Q. Mr. President, the Governors here at the conference seem to be in agreement that your popularity has increased considerably just recently. How do you view the national polls?

THE PRESIDENT. Well, they are never as good as you would like to have them. That is the first thing.

Second, we just must do what we think is best for the country, regardless of how it stands up in the polls. You never know, when you make a decision, what the end results are going to be. Some of them are popular and some are very unpopular.

You do what you think is right—and that is what we do.

Q. Do you view the polls as a good sign?

Is your popularity increasing, and do you look forward to 1968 confidently?

THE PRESIDENT. I think everyone must judge that matter for himself. Of course I am glad to see the polls when they indicate that what we do is being accepted by the people and they believe in it. I am pleased by it.

FEDERAL-STATE-CITY RELATIONSHIPS

[5.] Q. Mr. President, a great many of your programs of domestic legislation deal directly with cities like St. Louis and metropolitan areas, and sometimes it appears that this bypasses State government.

What is your position regarding your relationship with the State governments in view of this kind of legislation which deals directly with cities so often?

THE PRESIDENT. I think that all of us work for one boss—the people of the United States. The people pay our salaries.

I think it is up to every public official to try to work with the other public officials selected by the people. I spend a lot of my time trying to coordinate our work with the chief executives of the States, because I think it is important that the Chief Executive of the Nation cooperate with the chief executives of the States.

We also work very closely with the chief executives of the cities. Vice President Humphrey, a former mayor, is well acquainted with their problems. He spends a large part of his time working with all the mayors of this country—as he does working with the Governors.

I have three former Governors who work directly under the President in the White House in coordinating matters with the

Chief Executive. In this complex society in which we live, I think it is very important that all of the officials who are selected by the people, and who work for the people, try to work with each other.

REPUBLICAN GOVERNORS CONFERENCE

[6.] Q. Mr. President, the Republican Governors just met at Jackson Hole and they didn't seem to come together on a candidate for 1968.³

Do you have any advice for them?

THE PRESIDENT. No.

CRIME AND LAW ENFORCEMENT

[7.] Q. Mr. President, a lot has been said at this meeting, and at some other meetings, about establishing law and order in the streets of this country. What more can be done in this direction?

THE PRESIDENT. We have a bill that will be considered in the House of Representatives as soon as Congress returns—the safe streets and crime bill.

We discussed that at some length with the Governors today. I asked for their consideration and their support. This is a primary responsibility of the local officials—the State officials. The Federal Government doesn't come in until the last one and only then upon request of the local and State officials.

But there are certain things we can do to help and to support. We are trying to do everything we can in that field to back the local mayors, the State Governors, and the law enforcement officials.

³ The Republican Governors Association Conference was held on June 29–30, 1967, at Jackson Hole, Wyo.

Our Founding Fathers have decreed that they should have the primary responsibility they do have. We want to work with them in helping them discharge it in any way they think we can be helpful, and that is proper to be helpful.

CONGRESSIONAL ETHICS

[8.] Q. Mr. President, the matter of ethics seems to be of some concern in Washington these days. You served in Congress for better than 20 years. Do you think there ought to be a strong code of ethics for Members?

THE PRESIDENT. Yes.

REVIEW OF DISCUSSIONS WITH THE GOVERNORS

[9.] Q. Mr. President, could you tell us any more of what you discussed with the Governors, particularly as regards politics?

THE PRESIDENT. Yes. I gave them an intelligence briefing that I received this morning in connection with the Middle East. I reviewed with them an intelligence briefing in connection with Vietnam. I reviewed with them the record of this administration over the last 3 or 4 years, and particularly the record of the Congress this year.

I discussed with them some of the problems that we have together. I summarized—the Press Secretary will make these statements available to you—some of the accomplishments of medical care the first year. Today is the first anniversary. I signed the older Americans bill which provides many millions of dollars for our older people, for research and community projects that will greatly benefit them.

I discussed the draft order that I signed

recently in connection with the draft legislation that I just affixed my signature to.⁴ I appealed to the Governors to cooperate in seeing those draft boards were fairly constituted and that minority groups were properly represented upon them.

As you know, the Governor recommends the appointees to the President, and the President makes them. We like to go along with the Governors on the people they recommend, because we have asked them to perform this thankless responsibility, and we like to concur in their judgments.

But, since last December, we think that more equity has been obtained in having minority group members represented on draft boards that draft them for service. But, we still think there is a good deal of progress that needs to be made. And I urged the Governors to carefully consider my views.

EFFECTIVENESS OF THE POVERTY PROGRAM

[10.] Q. Mr. President, there have been racial flareups both in the North and the South, in certain areas. Do you consider this a sign that your domestic poverty programs are, or are not working; that there are other things that should be done in those local areas?

THE PRESIDENT. Yes, I think there is a lot that should be done that we want to do to help. We are never able to do as much as we want to do. I think we have the problems that have grown up through the years.

The Federal Government is trying to as-

sume as much responsibility as it can within its province and its jurisdiction. We have increased our poverty program 25 percent this year.

We think that that is helpful, but we don't think that is the cure. We think a lot of other things have got to grow besides that one program. We do want to work closely with the local citizens and with the State leaders—and we are.

DEMOCRATIC PARTY UNITY

[11.] Q. Mr. President, how unified do you think the Democratic Party is today?

THE PRESIDENT. The Democratic Party is never a party that is unanimous on many things. We are made up of individualists. We belong to a party where we can speak our mind and we frequently do.

We spoke it very well in '64; and we are going to speak it very well in '68. There will be some divergent opinions; there will be some differences of viewpoint. We don't all see everything alike—not even all Democrats—because if we did, we would all want the same wife.

But we respect other people's opinions—even if we don't share them. I think, generally speaking, the worst Democrat is better for the country than the best Republican.

VIETNAM ELECTIONS

[12.] Q. Mr. President, what are the problems, if any, with reference to having an all military ticket in Vietnam?

THE PRESIDENT. There are going to be 19 tickets out there, so the people will be allowed to choose the one that they think will best serve them. The fact that a man has had some service in the Army or the Air

⁴ The President referred to Executive Order 11360 of June 30, 1967, "Amending the Selective Service Regulations" (3 Weekly Comp. Pres. Docs., p. 947; 32 F.R. 9787; 3 CFR, 1967 Comp., p. 295); and the Military Selective Service Act of 1967 (Public Law 90-40; 81 Stat. 100).

Force doesn't disqualify him under their Constitution—as it doesn't disqualify him under our Constitution.

It hasn't been too long since we had a great President who had worn a uniform most of his life.

POLITICAL PROSPECTS FOR 1968

[13.] Q. Mr. President, did you get a political briefing from the Governors on what 1968 looks like for you?

THE PRESIDENT. We discussed it. I don't think you would formally call it a briefing, but what they said was music to my ears.

Q. Would you give us some idea?

THE PRESIDENT. I will just refer you to Mr. Harris or Mr. Gallup, or any of the Governors. They can speak for themselves better than I can.

But I think that they feel very much alike on the subject and that is that if you give to the country the best you have, the best will come back to you.

ATTITUDES OF THE GOVERNORS

[14.] Q. Mr. President, in 1964 when we met with you, your statement was that all honesty and purpose—

THE PRESIDENT. I am not hearing you. I am sorry.

Q. When we, the National Negro Publishers Association met with you in 1964, you said you were going to be President for all the people of the United States. That you have shown beyond a reasonable doubt. I wonder if your honesty, integrity, and humility will rub off on many of the Governors throughout the United States as the

years go along.

THE PRESIDENT. I think all public officials try to do what they think is right. I never have any problem doing what is right when I know what is right. My problem sometimes is knowing what is right.

There are so many questions that are close that give you difficulty.

I believe that the Governors here today are all doing their best to conscientiously represent the views of the people who elected them. I am certainly going to try to provide any leadership that I can to them and to the country.

VIETNAM ELECTIONS

[15.] Q. Mr. President, was the United States Government caught surprised at all by the withdrawal of Premier Ky from the race in Vietnam?

THE PRESIDENT. Yes, I think that we read the newspapers, received the reports, and I think it was generally assumed that Premier Ky would be a candidate for President. He had announced that he was a candidate for President. I think that the decision for him to withdraw and go on the ticket of candidate-for-President Thieu was a matter that we did not know about until he made that decision.

Reporter: Thank you very much, Mr. President.

NOTE: President Johnson's one hundred and third news conference was held at the Mayfair Hotel in St. Louis, Mo., at 6:45 p.m. on Saturday, July 1, 1967, following a one-day working conference attended by 17 Democratic Governors.

During his introductory remarks Governor Hughes referred to Governor Warren E. Hearnes of Missouri, Governor John J. McKeithen of Louisiana, and Governor Lester G. Maddox of Georgia.

298 Statement by the President on the First Anniversary of Medicare.
July 1, 1967

THE SUCCESS of the Medicare program in its first year has surpassed even the expectations of some of its staunchest supporters. The program is fulfilling the promise that older Americans and their families will be free of the fear of major financial hardship because of illness.

Secretary John Gardner submitted a report to me today in which he advised that in the past year under Medicare:

- 4 million older Americans entered hospitals, and \$2.4 billion in hospital bills was paid out.
- \$640 million for other medical services, primarily physicians' services, was paid out for the elderly enrolled in the voluntary medical insurance part of the program.
- 200,000 people have received home health services.

Since January 1, 1967 another 200,000 people have received care in professional nursing homes. The impact of Medicare goes far beyond what can be learned from a recital of statistics. The program has triggered deep and beneficial changes in American life:

- In the past, many aged Americans received the medical care they needed as ward patients or on a charity basis. Today they receive care on a private patient basis, with the dignity and freedom of choice that goes with the ability to pay provided by Medicare.
- Millions of aged Americans now have the peace of mind that comes from the knowledge that health care will not entail deep financial distress. They know they will not have to ask their children or other relatives to assume the

responsibility of their medical bills. Before Medicare only a little over half of the aged had any health insurance, and less than one-half of those had broad protection against hospital costs.

—As a result of title VI of the Civil Rights Act as applied to Medicare, members of minority groups in many communities have access to quality hospital care previously barred to them. Over 95 percent of the Nation's hospitals are now in compliance.

—Medicare has been a powerful force in upgrading the level of health care available to all Americans. Today, 6,800 hospitals, containing 98.5 percent of the bed capacity of non-Federal, general care hospitals in the United States, meet the quality standards of Medicare. For several hundred of these hospitals considerable upgrading was required in order to participate. In addition, the participation of 320 psychiatric institutions, 4,000 extended care facilities, and about 1,800 home health agencies is also conditioned on their ability to provide quality care.

—Medicare has stimulated the development of alternatives to hospital care: hospital outpatient services, post hospital extended care, home health care, as well as physicians' services in the hospital, office, or home. This wide range of Medicare alternatives makes it possible for the doctor, patient, or family to make a realistic choice of the service which best meets the patient's needs. In 1963, only about 250 home health agencies in the country could have met Medicare standards. Today 1,800

agencies are certified for Medicare participation.

- The comprehensiveness of Medicare coverage sets a standard against which all age groups measure the scope of their health insurance coverage. Medicare is stimulating improved health insurance coverage in the private sector for the entire population.

IMPROVING OPERATIONS

Medicare is an enterprise involving many millions of people and thousands of organizations. In setting up a program of such magnitude, there were many unprecedented administrative and procedural problems to be solved.

For the most part, the administration of hospital benefits has gone well. Most hospitals are reimbursed on a timely basis. Some simplifications are possible and are being pursued, but the administrative problems in this area are no longer substantial.

The payment of outpatient hospital benefits continues to present problems. We have recommended to Congress a major simplification of these benefit provisions.

On a national basis, insurance carriers had a backlog of nearly 8 weeks' work after the first 2 months of the opening of the program. By the first of this year, this had been cut to 5 weeks. Today, it is down to about 2.3 weeks.

In 51 of 59 carrier service areas, serving 90 percent of the Medicare beneficiaries, physicians' bills are being processed on an average of less than 21 days, and in 14 of these areas the average bill processing time is 10 days or less. Our goal is that all insurance carriers should achieve the processing time that these 14 carriers have attained.

Carriers are continuing to reduce process-

ing time, although bills are still coming in at a rate of over 700,000 a week. Reductions result from the introduction of electronic data processing equipment by the carriers, increases in staff and improvements in training, and simplifications in policies and procedures. The informational efforts of the carriers and the Social Security Administration have also led to a better understanding of the program by physicians and beneficiaries, reducing the proportion of improperly filed claims that had to be returned. The rate of claims returned by carriers for additional information is down from an earlier 30 to 40 percent to 4½ percent.

One major current problem concerns how the patient can be relieved of the hardship caused by large bills submitted by a physician who is unwilling to take payment on assignment, thereby forcing the patient to pay the physician out of his own funds before Medicare can make payment.

Nearly 57 percent of the physicians in the country accept assignments, at least part of the time. However, some patients of the other 43 percent may suffer serious hardships. We are studying ways to relieve the patient of unnecessary burdens, without increasing inflationary pressures on the size of the physician's fees.

Medicare goes into its second year on a sound administrative basis. Many of the difficulties that arose have been ironed out and the entire process is being carefully reviewed to assure that it operates at maximum efficiency and with minimum difficulty for all who are involved in or affected by it.

During the first year of Medicare, superior health care has been provided for millions of aged Americans, and health standards have been raised for all Americans. This has come about because of cooperation between the Federal Government, physicians, in-

surance carriers, and the States. It would not have been possible without the strong support of each of these groups. We have forged a partnership for a healthier America.

NOTE: On August 9, 1967, the White House Press Office announced that the Secretary of Health,

Education, and Welfare had reported to the President on actions taken to find solutions to the problem of rising medical care costs. A summary of the Secretary's report is printed in the Weekly Compilation of Presidential Documents (vol. 3, p. 1121).

The statement was released at San Antonio, Texas.

299 Statement by the President Upon Signing the Older Americans Act Amendments of 1967. *July 1, 1967*

TODAY, we honor in law our continuing commitment to the 19 million older Americans among us.

The bill I am signing—the Older Americans Act Amendments of 1967—builds on a respected tradition.

In Franklin Roosevelt's day, the hand of justice was extended when the first Social Security Act was passed. Now we need to bring that act up to date, with the greatest increase in benefits in more than 30 years.

In our own time, we have extended the hand of hope—through Medicare. That historic program is 1 year old today.

All the doubts and dire predictions have vanished in the glow of its success. Millions have already benefited. And this year we hope to make Medicare even stronger and better.

In our day, too, we have taken another progressive step. The Older Americans Act of 1965 reaffirmed a Nation's sense of responsibility and respect for the dignity of age.

For the first time, States and communities in a true hometown effort were able to plan and develop special programs to enrich the later years.

Here is the record of accomplishment:

- 550 communities in 44 States have launched programs to improve the quality of life for their aged.
- 50 community organizations are carrying forward research and pilot projects,

to put new life into later years.

—2,000 specialists are being trained in colleges and universities to work with the elderly.

But the full meaning—and the humanity—of this effort cannot be found in these statistics alone.

These programs have ignited a sure sense of usefulness in lives once lost to loneliness and boredom. Thousands of older people have found friendship, education, and recreation. Thousands more have volunteered their still valuable services to their community.

The legislation I am signing today will strengthen this great work.

The \$43 million it authorizes will greatly increase our efforts of the last 2 years by:

- Adding 275 new community projects to the 550 already started;
- Making possible a comprehensive national study to determine what kinds of specialists are needed—and how they can be better trained—to work with the elderly;
- Carrying forward research programs, including 75 new pilot projects.

I know of no better way to sum up the vitality and the hope of our programs for older Americans than to report the words of a volunteer worker:

"We are enabling men and women in their years of retirement to plow their goodness

back into the world they helped to build."

With the bill I sign today, we are returning some of that goodness to the world.

NOTE: As enacted, the Older Americans Act Amendments of 1967 (H.R. 10730) is Public Law 90-42 (81 Stat. 106).

The statement was released at San Antonio, Texas.

300 Letter to the President of the Senate and to the Speaker of the House Transmitting a Report on Strip and Surface Mining.

July 3, 1967

Dear Mr. President: (Dear Mr. Speaker:)

In accordance with the provisions of Public Law 89-4, the Appalachian Regional Development Act of 1965, I am transmitting to the Congress the report of the Secretary of the Interior resulting from the National Study of Strip and Surface Mining.

The report shows that much of the land which has been surface mined in the United States is now causing damage to our environment.

That damage is seen in water pollution, soil erosion, flooding, and safety hazards. Unsightly and wasteful as it is, it can be corrected by varying types of land treatment actions. Such a program is currently under development.

The report also indicates that present surface mining practices can and must be improved. Each year some 150,000 additional acres are being surface mined. By 1980, this annual increment will increase to 280,000 acres. Unless we develop these lands wisely, some of this freshly-mined land may cause additional environmental damage. The report contains constructive suggestions as to what better practices might be implemented with current surface mining. It points out that such preventive measures are usually only a fraction as costly as subsequent land treatment.

The Federal Government must put its own house in order—so that its land stewardship will be an example to others.

To that end, I am asking that all Federal agencies immediately review their policies dealing with surface mining on lands under their jurisdiction, and with contracts for the procurement of surface mined mineral commodities and fuels. The aim is to develop policies to assure, insofar as is now possible, that effective controls are instituted over surface-damaging mineral exploration and extraction, and that reasonable land restoration provisions are included. I am directing the Secretary of the Interior to submit an evaluation to me on the results of this review by September 30.

This report is a major step forward in our understanding of the problems caused by surface mining. It outlines many constructive actions that can be taken by mining operators, by the States, and by the Federal Government. I believe it warrants careful study and consideration by all of these parties in order to minimize any future damage to our environment.

To that end I am asking the Secretary of the Interior to send a copy of this report to each State Governor. I am asking our own agencies to cooperate with the mining industry to develop and implement the best ideas in this report. I will be discussing these plans and recommendations in future messages to the Congress.

Sincerely,

LYNDON B. JOHNSON

NOTE: This is the text of identical letters addressed to the Honorable Hubert H. Humphrey, President of the Senate, and to the Honorable John W. McCormack, Speaker of the House of Representatives.

The Secretary's report is entitled "Surface Mining

and our Environment" (Government Printing Office, 124 pp.).

The President's letter was released at San Antonio, Texas.

301 Statement by the President: Independence Day.

July 4, 1967

TODAY America again celebrates her freedom.

Nearly two centuries have passed since the bells of Philadelphia pealed—and a brave people declared themselves free.

Americans did not invent freedom. For thousands of years, men had cherished it and risked their lives to win it for themselves and their children. In ancient Athens, Thucydides wrote:

"Through efforts and suffering and on many a stricken field we have found out the secret of human power, which is the secret of happiness. Men have guessed at it under many names; but we alone have learnt to know it and to make it at home in our city. And the name we know it by is freedom. . . ."

Of all the blessings of our Nation, freedom is surely the most precious. It has given us not only prosperity as a people, but pride in ourselves and a secure place in mankind's history.

Today, even as we celebrate, let us not forget the price that those who love freedom must ever be ready to pay.

As fireworks flash in our skies, let us remember the cannons flaming across the seas. As we fly the flag before our homes, let us remember the sons of America who carry

it in battle. As here men parade and proud bugles sound, let us remember the place where the parade is a careful march across a mined field, and the sounds are of fearful battle.

These bitter contrasts—and their meaning—should be in the mind of every American this day. For the freedom we celebrate is ours only because of the valor of brave Americans who were—and are—willing to die for it.

We owe freedom not only our celebration, but our commitment. It is a necessary burden—as well as a national birthright.

Freedom is a gift to be cherished, yes, but it is also a gift to be shared; and in sharing it, we strengthen it everywhere, at home and abroad. The efforts we have made in this century to help others win or regain their freedom have been indispensable to preserving our own.

Finally, let us, in our celebration today, offer a prayer of thanks for freedom and the blessings it has brought us. Let us look again to the divine providence, to whom Jefferson appealed. Let us ask Him to help us find the courage, the wisdom, and the commitment that will make the future of our freedom as bright as its past.

NOTE: The statement was released at San Antonio, Texas.

302 Presidential Unit Citation Awarded to the 8th Airborne Battalion,
Airborne Division, Army of the Republic of Vietnam.

July 5, 1967

BY VIRTUE of the authority vested in me as President of the United States and as Commander-in-Chief of the Armed Forces of the United States I have today awarded

THE PRESIDENTIAL UNIT CITATION (ARMY)
FOR EXTRAORDINARY HEROISM
TO

THE EIGHTH AIRBORNE BATTALION, AIRBORNE
DIVISION, ARMY OF THE REPUBLIC OF VIETNAM

The Eighth Airborne Battalion, Airborne Division, Army of the Republic of Vietnam (ARVN) distinguished itself by extraordinary heroism in connection with military operations against a hostile force from 25 to 28 February 1966. During this period, the Eighth Airborne Battalion conducted several successful assaults against strongly fortified insurgent positions after other friendly units had failed in their attempts to defeat the hostile forces. In the first engagement, the hostile forces had repulsed a coordinated attack by two ARVN battalions. After the friendly battalions withdrew, the Eighth Airborne Battalion advanced in the face of heavy small arms, machine gun, and mortar fire across 800 meters of open rice paddy in an assault against the fortified hostile positions. In heavy fighting at extremely close quarters, the Battalion routed the insurgents and forced them to retreat in disorder from their fortified positions, leaving many dead and wounded personnel and a significant amount of equipment on the battlefield. Two days later, in a second engagement at another location, the enemy, in dug-in and heavily fortified positions, again repulsed an attack by ARVN battalions. The Eighth Airborne

Battalion was again ordered to attack across 2,000 meters of open rice paddy through heavy flanking fire to seize the enemy position. In spite of heavy casualties, the gallant and determined paratroopers swept into the enemy positions and, in close combat, again defeated the enemy and forced him into a disorderly retreat. The next day an enemy force was located in well-entrenched positions along a tree line adjacent to a small village. When the friendly main attack was repulsed, the Eighth Airborne Battalion, initially in reserve, was committed to the attack. The Battalion advanced across 500 meters of open rice paddy against intense enemy machine gun and mortar fire to assault the positions. After reaching the tree line, the Battalion closed with the enemy and, employing small arms, hand grenades, and bayonets, forced the enemy to withdraw from his prepared positions, leaving behind many casualties and weapons. In each engagement, the Eighth Airborne Battalion was supported by minimal artillery and air support and had to rely almost entirely upon its light organic weapons and the valor, skill, and determination of the individual soldier and small unit leaders to accomplish its mission. The exemplary actions of the Eighth Airborne Battalion under these extremely difficult and hazardous conditions are in keeping with the highest traditions of the military profession and reflect great credit upon itself and the Army of the Republic of Vietnam.

LYNDON B. JOHNSON

NOTE: The citation was released at San Antonio, Texas.

303 Statement by the President on the Agreement With Mexico for an International Flood Control Project on the Tijuana River.
July 6, 1967

THE GOVERNMENTS of the United States and Mexico have concluded an agreement for the construction, operation, and maintenance of an international flood control project for the Tijuana River in California and in Baja California, Mexico. Agreement was reached through the International Boundary and Water Commission, United States and Mexico, which will now proceed to supervise joint design and construction of the project.

Once again we join with our sister Republic of Mexico for the solution of a border problem. The normally small Tijuana River, flowing through the Mexican city of Tijuana and the cities of San Diego and Imperial Beach to the Pacific Ocean, is subject to severe floods. By channelizing the river, the two countries can confine its flood waters in those cities to a narrow, concrete-lined waterway. These cities will be able to develop the river's flood plains without a continual threat to lives, homes, and businesses. Since the new river channel in the United States will be moved southward to a location just north and generally parallel to the international boundary, the United States cities will not have to contend with this river running through their developed areas.

Each country will pay for that part of the

project within its own territory, thus sharing costs proportionally in accordance with the benefits received. It is estimated that the United States portion will cost \$15,400,000 on the basis of current prices. Of this amount, the local beneficiaries would pay \$4,500,000 and the Federal Government would pay \$10,900,000. This arrangement for local participation is the same as though the project were domestic instead of international.

I want to thank the many Members of Congress who supported the legislation last year to authorize this project, and particularly Senator Kuchel and Representative Van Deerlin for their valuable leadership.

At three widely separated points along our almost 2,000-mile boundary with Mexico, in the lower Rio Grande Valley, at El Paso, and now in California, we have new projects under way designed to improve the border region where so many of the citizens of both countries live and share common aspirations.

NOTE: The agreement was published by the International Boundary and Water Commission, United States and Mexico, as "Minute No. 225," dated June 19, 1967.

Legislation authorizing the agreement and providing funds for construction was approved by the President on October 10, 1966 (Public Law 89-640; 80 Stat. 884).

The statement was released at San Antonio, Texas.

304 Statements by the President on Federal Assistance Programs for College Students. *July 8, 1967*

STATEMENT CONCERNING REPORT ON THE
NUMBER OF STUDENTS ASSISTED

These figures are dramatic evidence of the desire and ability of this country to

help its young people attain their aspirations. The statistics suggest that in only one generation we can attain a once impossible goal: that every American boy and girl will have the opportunity to move up the educational

ladder as far as individual desire and ability permit.

STATEMENT ON THE TALENT SEARCH PROGRAM

There is no telling how many thousands of young people, now and in the future, will be reached and rescued by this program. But we do know that thousands are in college right now as a result of it.

If every American would keep an eye out for the boy next door, or the girl down the road, more of our Nation's talent would be uncovered and developed.

NOTE: The President's statements were made public as part of a White House release announcing that at least 900,000 young people had received help from four federally-supported programs during the 1966-67 school year. The announcement, based on a report to the President by Secretary Gardner, added that it was estimated that 1,175,000 undergraduate

and graduate students would be aided in the next academic year.

The release listed the four programs, as follows: the Educational Opportunity Grants program under which outright grants—matched by the colleges—are made to needy students; the College Work-Study program whereby students work 15 hours a week; the National Defense Student Loan program which provides loans to students at low interest rates; and the Guaranteed Loan program under which loans from private commercial sources are guaranteed by the Government.

The release also stated that the President had called attention to the Talent Search program which began in 1966. Under this program the Office of Education, working with the colleges and universities, departments of education, and organizations of social concern, was conducting a nationwide search for talented young people, telling them of new opportunities for higher education and training, and of the larger role they could play in the American future.

A summary of the report, including statistics on the various programs, is printed in the Weekly Compilation of Presidential Documents (vol. 3, p. 998).

The statements were released at San Antonio, Texas.

305 Message to the Congress Transmitting Annual Report of the Commodity Credit Corporation. July 11, 1967

To the Congress of the United States:

I am pleased to transmit to the Congress the Annual Report of the Commodity Credit Corporation for fiscal year 1966.

This Report shows clearly the progress that is being made toward our goal of economic equality for rural America.

Farm surpluses have virtually been eliminated. With the removal of this threat to farm prices, farm income has been strengthened.

Yet the elimination of surpluses poses a new dilemma:

—On the one hand, national and world needs demand a high level of production of food and fiber. With populations soaring and the margin of food supplies growing thinner in many areas of

the world, we cannot gamble on the possibility of inadequate stocks.

—On the other hand, farmers who produce supplies in excess of immediate requirements as a national precaution, cannot be expected to bear the cost themselves through depressed farm prices and income.

To increase price protection for farmers in these new circumstances, the Commodity Credit Corporation has recently expanded its price-support loan program.

The price-support loan program has long provided farmers protection against commodity price reductions. Under the program, farmers are able to obtain loans at harvest time, enabling them to withhold their products from the markets until later

in the marketing season when prices are more favorable. Loans for this purpose totalled nearly \$2 billion in fiscal 1966.

The expansion of the price-support loan program will permit more farmers to keep commodities off the market beyond the current crop season. The commodities will continue to be owned by the farmers, with the government paying the storage costs as part of the Nation's price for maintaining adequate reserves.

By thus drawing further upon the resources of the Commodity Credit Corporation to meet changing conditions, this Nation will be taking another important step toward economic equality for the American farmer.

LYNDON B. JOHNSON

The White House

July 11, 1967

NOTE: The report is entitled "Report of the President of the Commodity Credit Corporation, 1966" (Government Printing Office, 37 pp.).

306 Toasts of the President and Former Chancellor Erhard of Germany. *July 11, 1967*

Dr. Erhard, distinguished guests:

It is always a pleasure to welcome old friends to Washington, but this is a very special day for us, to welcome Chancellor Erhard back to this house.

Dr. Erhard is known to the world as the architect of the German economic miracle, and the distinguished leader of a great nation at a very critical period in our history.

But to all Americans he is much more. He is an old and very trusted friend.

I am reminded of the words of George Eliot who wrote, "Friendships begin with liking or gratitude."

And even though our friendship began through official contact, it has evolved into the simple liking of one man for another.

It is a friendship that outlasts official position and special responsibilities, and one that will live as long as the men who hold it.

Mr. Chancellor, we are all indebted to Wartburg College and the University of Michigan for bringing you back to our shores. We all know that you richly deserve the honors that they are about to bestow.

We know that you will receive a warm welcome wherever you go.

You are visiting a particularly interesting

part of our country, one that I always enjoy.

Today, as so often in the past, you and I talked over the state of the world and we exchanged views on the major issues of the day.

I am grateful, as I have been many times before, for your wise counsel, and I am always strengthened by your understanding and your support.

In this room today from the Government, the executive department, the Congress, and from private life, men have come here who are your friends. They all join me in welcoming you back to America.

Gentlemen, I ask you to join me in a toast to the President of the Federal Republic of Germany.

NOTE: The President proposed the toast at 2:02 p.m. at a luncheon in the State Dining Room at the White House. As printed this item follows the text released by the White House Press Office.

Former Chancellor Ludwig Erhard responded as follows:

Mr. President, gentlemen:

I am very happy indeed to again be here in the United States, and in particular to be in this circle that I see around me.

I would like to emphasize that this friendship and these ties with you are genuine. They do not just spring from official positions and official contacts.

I want to emphasize that the roots are deep.

I have not fallen into a vacuum after leaving my office as Chancellor, and the convictions that I have held for 20 years, and longer, are just as much with me, and with me in my political activity today as they have been in the past. These I see reemphasized by the people that I see around me here. I saw them emphasized also yesterday when I met with the Council on Foreign Relations in New York.

The faces I have seen there and I am seeing here are not just old acquaintances; they are the faces of friends, the faces of people that share the same convictions. These are not just the diplomatic niceties that I am telling you, but it is a genuine expression of my feelings.

I was very glad to hear that the President expressed a similar thought, that it was not the official connection between us but that there are human ties that bind us together. I realize that there are many problems to be solved between the countries, that there are many problems that will require much further discussion.

Among them are, I believe, the question of the reduction of the military budget in the Federal Republic. Among them is definitely the current insecurity about the status and future of NATO.

How Europe will shape up in the future should be added to this list as a particular concern also.

I have always said in the past, and I am still saying so today, that in this modern world, no country, no matter how strong or how weak, can stand alone and can presume to decide its own destiny alone and on its own terms.

I believe if our countries stand together on the basis of that inner conviction, not together in order to plot something that would be beneficial for both of us, but stand together for the peace in the world and for the sake of freedom, I believe that then we need not have much concern about the future of Europe or the future of other countries.

I have always been convinced and I have always emphasized that in particular the friendship between our country and the United States—and I mean here not just the personal friendship between us, Mr. President, but the genuine friendship that exists between the people of the United States and the German people—will have to continue and will have to be the foundation for the future benefit of both countries.

This has been the case, this friendship has existed, since the very beginning of our meetings. I would be a bad German if I would have any desire but to see this friendship continue just as deeply and just as firmly under the present administration in my country. I believe that this will be the case.

I will always, during my trip in this country, do everything in my power to emphasize the necessity of cooperation between our two countries. I hope that my visit here will be able to make a small contribution towards this end.

I always have held the conviction, and I have stated this quite often, that the basis of what has developed positively in Europe has very much been found not so much in other events as in the Marshall Plan for one thing, which was the big stimulating factor that has sustained Europe and that has brought us in the direction of European unity. European unity is what is necessary, what I firmly believe in, and everything in my power, in my present political surroundings, I will do in order to further this aim and to prevent dissension and disunity to take over in Europe.

The Marshall Plan has shown not just the political strategy but the genuine desire on the part of the American people to help another people attain life and freedom, to step across the shadows of the past, extending the hand of genuine friendship. This shall never be forgotten.

The Marshall Plan, then, and this policy of European unity, have been the factors that have been motivating everything that has moved in a positive direction. What has happened in between more or less have been alternative solutions that were dictated by the moment, but they will not alter the fact that without this spirit as represented by the Marshall Plan, as represented by the OECD, without this friendship and cooperation between our people real progress cannot be made.

I am very happy indeed, Mr. President, to be here again and to be your guest, and very grateful for your hospitality.

I would hope that the ties that have connected us in the past will continue in the future, despite the fact that I find myself in different surroundings now.

I can assure you that my personal affection and friendship for you are just as deep as ever.

307 Statement by the President Urging Congressional Support of the Reorganization Plan for the District of Columbia. July 11, 1967

THE GOVERNMENT of our Nation's Capital must be reorganized. It is high time to move it out of horse-and-buggy days and

into the 20th century.

Washington is America's fastest growing metropolitan area. Yet its people are bur-

dened and its progress imperiled by the drag of antiquated government. Today our Capital stumbles along, hobbled by wasteful and inefficient practices installed as a temporary solution 93 years ago—just after the Civil War.

This is shameful. It must stop. The people of the District must be allowed to take their proper place in a progressive America. The reorganization plan I sent to Congress offers that bright promise.

- Divided authority will give way to a single, strong executive.
- Tangled and confused lines of responsibility will be straightened and cleared.
- With stronger leadership and broader representation, crime can be controlled,

the streets can be safer, the people can have better housing and better health.

I urge the Congress to support and approve this sensible and timely plan. I ask the people of the District to waken to their grave responsibilities—and the great opportunity now before them.

Here in our hands is the long-awaited chance to replace a jerry-built government of the 1870's with a new government for the new problems of the 1970's.

Time and opportunity will not wait. We dare not lose the chance they give us now.

NOTE: The statement was recorded for use on a special television program broadcast by Station WTOP in Washington entitled "D.C. Government at the Crossroads."

See also Items 247, 337, 339, 341, 377, 406.

308 Remarks Upon Presenting the Distinguished Service Medal to Adm. David L. McDonald. July 13, 1967

Admiral McDonald and family; General Westmoreland, we are delighted you could be present on this occasion; Members of the Cabinet; Members of the Congress; Secretary Nitze; members of the Joint Chiefs of Staff; ladies and gentlemen:

We have come here today to honor America's Chief of Naval Operations. He is a great sailor who has given 43 years of service to the Nation that he loves.

He has earned our country's highest military award for service "other than combat." This afternoon I want to recognize our Navy's "service other than combat"—which is a rather clumsy phrase, but one that encompasses an enormous contribution to this Nation's general welfare.

War is not the only business of the United States Navy. Peace—and the guarding of peace—is a constant and a primary duty of

all who serve beneath our flag.

The American Navy is an awesome force. A succession of fine commanders like Admiral McDonald have fashioned and maintained it as a superb weapon in times of war. But our Navy is also a very subtle instrument for peace.

The peacemaking efforts of our Navy make few headlines, even in a place as closely watched as Vietnam. Too few people remember that one of the Navy's earliest missions in Vietnam was in the troubled summer of 1954.

The country had been divided along the 17th parallel, into North and South. It was the last time that the people of North Vietnam had a free choice between communism and democracy.

Hundreds of thousands of Vietnamese elected freedom. They voted for liberty with

their feet. With the few possessions they could carry, they gathered in the now famous harbor of Haiphong. From there the American Navy gave them their historic passage to freedom, carrying them, their families, and their meager goods south, away from Communist rule.

American transports, American landing craft, and other American ships moved 290,000 refugees to freedom. And it was one of the most remarkable humanitarian operations in history.

How many people remember that? How many remember the journey of these 290,000—or the other 600,000 who made their own way south—when they ask if the Vietnamese really desire to be free?

Today in South Vietnam, the men of the Navy still work for peace, in “service other than combat.” In remote hamlets, teams of Seabees are building a free nation as part of the pacification effort.

Throughout South Vietnam, more than 2,000 Navy doctors, dentists, and corpsmen help the Marine units in this vital “other war.” They work convinced that here, among the people, the elusive prize of peace will someday be found.

So today we dream of that peace even as we engage in war. We are proud to honor this great commander of a proud service, a brave legion of Americans who have gone to sea.

The distinguished Secretary of the Navy—Mr. Nitze—will read the citation for this award that a grateful Nation bestows upon its great sailor.

[Text of the citation read by Secretary Nitze]

The President of the United States takes pleasure in presenting a Gold Star in lieu of

the Second Distinguished Service Medal to

ADMIRAL DAVID L. MC DONALD
UNITED STATES NAVY

for service as set forth in the following

CITATION:

For exceptionally meritorious service to the Government of the United States in a duty of great responsibility as the Chief of Naval Operations from 1 August 1963 to 1 August 1967. Throughout four years of unprecedented military demands in a peacetime environment, Admiral McDonald's superb leadership, judgment and professional skill have guided the operating forces of the Navy to ever-increasing standards of operational readiness and combat effectiveness. In periods of extreme tension, and of combat itself, naval forces have repeatedly proven ready and responsive in support of United States interests beyond our shores. Under Admiral McDonald's executive direction, these forces have responded so superbly, and new capabilities and concepts have been fostered so effectively, as to markedly increase not only the readiness of the Navy itself, but also the national appreciation and respect for naval forces as a vital, responsive factor in the protection of the United States and its citizens, and in the defense of the free world. By his professional leadership and devotion to duty as the Chief of Naval Operations during this most difficult and challenging period, Admiral McDonald has rendered exceptionally valuable and distinguished service and has contributed greatly to the success of the United States and friendly forces engaged in combat, and to the protection of citizens of free nations around

the world, thereby upholding and contributing to the highest traditions of the United States Naval Service.

LYNDON B. JOHNSON

NOTE: The President spoke at 1:06 p.m. in the East Room at the White House. In his opening words he referred to Adm. David L. McDonald, Chief of Naval Operations, Gen. William C. Westmoreland, Commander, United States Military Assistance Command, Vietnam, and Paul H. Nitze, Secretary of the Navy.

309 The President's News Conference of *July 13, 1967*

[Held with Robert S. McNamara, Secretary of Defense, Gen. Earle G. Wheeler, Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, and Gen. William C. Westmoreland, Commander, United States Military Assistance Command, Vietnam]

SUMMARY OF DISCUSSIONS ON VIETNAM

THE PRESIDENT. [1.] I thought it would be desirable, since it was necessary for General Westmoreland to return to this country, to ask him to come from South Carolina, where he has buried his mother, to visit with me briefly before he returned to his duty.

The General came in a little after 10 p.m. last night and we talked until a little after midnight.

We resumed those discussions this morning with Secretary McNamara and General Wheeler. We have just concluded them at the luncheon table.

The General will be returning to pick up Mrs. Westmoreland this afternoon and he is going back to his post in the morning.

I have, in the last few days, received detailed reports on the Vietnam theater from Ambassador Bunker, Mr. Locke, Mr. Komer, Secretary McNamara, Mr. Katzenbach, and General Wheeler.

I have read all of those very carefully and have exchanged views with Secretaries McNamara and Katzenbach, General Wheeler, and Mr. Komer about them.

I have exchanged messages with Ambassador Bunker and Ambassador Lodge. I have talked about the various subjects involved in those reports in some detail with General Westmoreland: the military operations there, the plans, the programs, the results, and so forth.

I think that it is fair to say that at no time during my Presidency have I been more pleased with the quality of leadership, namely, the leadership being provided by General Westmoreland and the leadership being provided by Ambassador Bunker, there than I am now.

We have tried to evaluate our successes—they are many. And our problems—and they are many. We have tried to find solutions and resolutions to some of the unanswered questions—and we have. I know that you will want to explore some of those on your own.

Suffice it for me to say that we are generally pleased with the progress we have made militarily. We are very sure that we are on the right track.

We realize that some additional troops are going to be needed and are going to be supplied. The President, the Secretary, the Joint Chiefs, and General Westmoreland are in agreement on our needs.

In consultation with our allies, we will meet those needs as they arise. We still have 20,000 or 30,000 under our previous authorization to be fitted into Vietnam. We will

have others to follow them.

The exact time, the exact number, the exact type, the exact country, we will work on back in Vietnam—following General Westmoreland's return—and also in our discussions with the services here, and the other allies involved.

We cannot, today, give you any specific figure other than to say what Secretary McNamara said yesterday: We can foresee, at this time, no necessity to call up the Reserves.

Secretary McNamara, do you want to observe anything?

SECRETARY McNAMARA. No, other than to say, Mr. President, because of General Westmoreland's unexpected departure from South Vietnam, General Wheeler and I did not have an opportunity to complete our discussions with him while we were there. We have done so today.

I was very happy to have this chance to draw to a conclusion the discussions of potential troop requirements that we had begun there.

THE PRESIDENT. General Wheeler, do you have anything you want to say?

GENERAL WHEELER. No, sir; except to say that, as you said, Mr. President, we are in accord. The problem now is to settle upon the resources and how we are going to meet the requirements.

THE PRESIDENT. General Westmoreland.

GENERAL WESTMORELAND. Despite many speculations as to the number of troops that I have asked for, the fact is that I have not asked for any specific number of troops.

I have recommended a deployment to Vietnam of a certain number of combat units that would comprise a part of a balanced force. I am being provided the forces, as I have recommended.

Over the period of the last 2 years, we have built up in South Vietnam a large logistical base which is well organized and

is flexible. It is one of our real strengths.

We are now in a position where for every man that is deployed we will get a double return in combat power. Or, to put my thought in other words, we have already written off the logistic support.

We will get greater return in combat power for the forces that are henceforth deployed.

Logistic forces can be provided by military personnel, by contract, or by indigenous hire. We are using all of these methods at the moment to provide this logistical support. We will continue to do this in the future.

THE PRESIDENT. Yes, sir.

QUESTIONS

NUMBER OF TROOPS

[2.] Q. Mr. Secretary, could you clarify for us what seems to be a discrepancy between the figure announced at the Pentagon of 264,000 troops in Vietnam and your explanation yesterday that there were still 20,000 or 30,000 to come to make 280,000?

SECRETARY McNAMARA. I think you are talking about 460,000 and 480,000.

Q. Yes.

SECRETARY McNAMARA. The figure I said yesterday was 480,000. We have there 450,000 or 460,000 and we have on the order of 20,000 or 30,000 to go. They will be supplied within the next few weeks.

ALLIED TROOPS

Q. Mr. Secretary, will these consultations with the allies in the future involve a proposal for an outright increase in the number of troops they have in the field?

SECRETARY McNAMARA. We don't request troops from our allies for use in Vietnam. I think we must engage in joint discussions of the requirements.

They are assuming responsibilities, as are we, as sovereign states for participation in the defense of Vietnam. We will counsel with them as to their views as to what the requirements are and how we might jointly fulfill those.

SOUTH VIETNAMESE EFFORT

[3.] Q. General Westmoreland, could you comment for us, from your viewpoint in Saigon, on the adequacy of the mobilization and effort by the South Vietnamese?

GENERAL WESTMORELAND. During the last 3 years the South Vietnamese Armed Forces have more than doubled in strength. This includes the three major components, namely, the regular ground forces—the ARVN, the regional forces, and the popular forces. This has involved quite a strain on their leadership resources.

During the past year there was a slowdown in the creation of new units because we realized about a year ago they were overextending themselves. They have made tremendous strides during the past year in improving their quality and their general proficiency.

They are now in a position where they can, again, expand. It is implied that during the coming year, there will be an increase in the strength of their forces. I cannot give you the specific numbers, but the increase will be fairly substantial.

BASIS FOR TROOP REQUESTS

Q. General Westmoreland, could you tell us, to help us understand both the present situation and, as these periods are repeated of troop requests, just how you do recommend, how you frame your recommendations, without necessarily giving away any specific numbers?

GENERAL WESTMORELAND. This matter is under constant study. It is a function of the enemy strength, the Vietcong strongholds that must be cleared and pacified, the objectives that we set for ourselves in connection with clearing areas, holding areas, opening up lines of communication, invading well established VC base areas, containing North Vietnamese forces—such as along the demilitarized zone in western Pleiku and Kontum.

Needless to say, our requirement for U.S. forces has to take into consideration the free world military assistance forces and the ARVN forces. Our plans are based on integration of all of these type forces into a single military force and a great deal of study is given to it.

IMPACT ON DRAFT CALLS

[4.] Q. Mr. Secretary, could I ask you, quite apart from the figures that may be involved, what will be the impact of the additional personnel needed on the draft calls?

SECRETARY McNAMARA. There won't be any significant impact on current draft calls. The statements I made at the President's ranch last November will still hold.

The draft calls for 1967 will be significantly lower than for 1966 in total.

TOUR OF DUTY

Q. Mr. Secretary, along that line, will there be any need to increase that 1-year tour of duty?

SECRETARY McNAMARA. No, definitely not. I am glad you asked that question. None of the plans that we are considering involves any change in the basic program of a 1-year tour of duty in South Vietnam, except for those who volunteer to extend their tours beyond that.

I should say in passing—and General Westmoreland can add to this—a substantial percentage of the men have volunteered for an extended tour, but the basic tour is 12 months.

THE MILITARY SITUATION

[5.] Q. Sir, what is your outlook? What can we expect in the next year or so in military terms in Vietnam?

THE PRESIDENT. I wonder if you could tell us what we have done in the last year and expect in the next year, very briefly. Touch on this “stalemate” creature.

GENERAL WESTMORELAND. The statement that we are in a stalemate is complete fiction. It is completely unrealistic. During the past year tremendous progress has been made. I think the Secretary noted this during his recent trip.

The Secretary was there about 9 months ago and I am sure that the progress was evident to him. I live it from day to day and it is not as evident to me as it is to visitors who come in periodically.

It is like watching your children grow up. The grandmother comes and sees them once a year. She is always surprised at the extent to which they have grown.

I am living with the situation day to day and it is more evident to visitors than it is to me, but when I research my memory, go back into the records, it becomes quite evident that we have made tremendous progress.

We have opened up roads. They are now being used not only for military purposes but for commercial purposes.

We have invaded long-established base areas representing tremendous investment value such as in the vicinity of Saigon. We have pushed the enemy further and further back into the jungles.

The enemy had planned to take control of the two northern provinces, Quang Tri and Thua Thien. He has been stopped. He has suffered large casualties.

The enemy had planned to take over domination of the highlands. Again, he has been defeated and great casualties have been suffered. Greater population has been secured and taken away from Communist domination.

The revolutionary development program has made encouraging progress. It has a long ways to go, I admit, but the Government's program is off to a good start.

The ARVN troops are fighting much better than they were a year ago. They are showing greater professionalism. We have paramilitary units that are defeating North Vietnamese regular forces and Vietcong main forces. A year ago this was unheard of.

The number of defectors coming into the Government has substantially increased. The ratio of friendly troops killed to those killed of the enemy continues to increase. It has doubled during the past year.

The number of weapons lost by the Government forces, compared with those captured from the enemy, has turned in favor of the Vietnamese forces.

Two years ago they were losing two weapons for every one captured. Now they are capturing two to three weapons for every one they lose. These are all very favorable trends.

I think to measure progress, one has to think in terms of objectives. Our objective in South Vietnam is to give the people freedom of choice, to resist the aggression from the North, to try to give the people protection from the terror and intimidation of the Vietcong.

On the contrary, the enemy's objectives have been to terrorize the people, to disrupt the revolutionary development program, to

take over more of the population, to sabotage the roads and lines of communication.

He has failed in achieving his objectives. We have succeeded in attaining our objectives. Despite the fact that North Vietnam has now apparently fully mobilized, sending her best troops and leadership to the South, developed a very large air defense system, and having her physical infrastructure progressively destroyed by our offensive strategy, our air war, she has nothing to show for it.

The enemy has not won a single significant victory during the past year, despite the tremendous effort that she has put forth.

SOUTH VIETNAMESE FORCES

[6.] Q. General, could you explain in connection with that why the South Vietnamese have not fully mobilized?

GENERAL WESTMORELAND. The South Vietnamese have a very large force under arms now, over 700,000 men. This is a considerable military force for a country of 15 million, approximately.

True enough, they are capable of organizing additional military forces. As I stated a moment ago, they will increase their regular and paramilitary structure during the coming year.

Leadership has been a problem and a major problem. Their leadership potential has been stretched almost to the elastic limit. Training facilities, budgetary considerations, demands of the local economy and the local government have, too. It makes no sense at all to increase a military force if you are going to degrade the quality.

One has to always strike a balance between quality and quantity. I feel that during the past year, we struck a pretty good balance—the Vietnamese Armed Forces—between the

quality considerations and the quantity involved.

But now that they have had a chance to settle down to improve the quality of their force, with emphasis on their leadership, they are now in a position to continue to expand.

ADDITIONAL UNITS

Q. General, was your request for additional units primarily for American units?

GENERAL WESTMORELAND. Frankly, I did not specify.

POSITION OF NORTH VIETNAM

[7.] Q. I wonder if I could ask you about some stories we have been reading and hearing about based on intelligence reports from the North. There seems to be a division in the North about their judgment on our staying power. Is the North weakening now? Do they feel we are going to stay there as long as we have to? Are they weakening their position? What is your view of that?

GENERAL WESTMORELAND. Frankly, my intelligence I don't believe is any better than yours in this regard. The leadership in Hanoi continues to send the regular troops to the South. They are continuing to move supplies to the extent that weather and the disruptive effect of our air strikes permit to the South.

As I mentioned a minute ago, their national effort has been enormous, almost to the capacity of the country. It must be a bit discouraging when they realize they have nothing to show for it.

OUTLOOK

Q. The coming year—what would be your view of what is going to happen?

GENERAL WESTMORELAND. I am in no position to speculate on that.

NUMBER OF UNITS NEEDED

[8.] Q. General Westmoreland, without going into numbers, could you say, using your phrase "units," about how many units have been agreed upon?

GENERAL WESTMORELAND. I am not privileged to discuss that.

GENERAL WESTMORELAND'S REQUEST

Q. (Alvin A. Spivak, United Press International.) Will this increase, Mr. President, in whatever form it takes, fully meet the request that General Westmoreland has made?

THE PRESIDENT. The General can answer that as well as I can. But we have both answered it before. The answer is: Yes, we have reached a meeting of the minds. The troops that General Westmoreland needs and requests, as we feel it necessary, will be supplied.

General Westmoreland feels that is acceptable, General Wheeler thinks that is acceptable, and Secretary McNamara thinks that is acceptable. It is acceptable to me and we hope it is acceptable to you.

Is that not true, General Westmoreland?

GENERAL WESTMORELAND. I agree, Mr. President.

THE PRESIDENT. General Wheeler?

GENERAL WHEELER. That is correct, Mr. President.

THE PRESIDENT. Secretary McNamara?

SECRETARY McNAMARA. Yes, sir.

THE PRESIDENT. Mr. Spivak?

MR. SPIVAK. Yes, sir.

NORTH VIETNAMESE FORCES

[9.] Q. General, could I ask, sir, how much of the main Vietnamese force has been committed to the struggle, percentage and otherwise, and are we prepared, in case the North Vietnamese decide to put the bulk of their army against the forces?

GENERAL WESTMORELAND. There are over 50,000 regular North Vietnamese forces in South Vietnam right now. There are other troops north of the demilitarized zone, and there are additional troops in the so-called "panhandle" of Laos.

As to the total number involved, frankly we are not sure. It is certainly far in excess of those that we are in contact with in the South.

Now the enemy has a substantial number of forces tied up in their air defense system in order to counter our air offensive actions to the north. There is a substantial number of people involved in maintaining their lines of communication.

No doubt they could send additional troops to the South and they may do so. But they will do so at great risk.

As long as we continue our air interdiction program, I believe they will be hard pressed to properly support them.

FREE WORLD FORCES

[10.] Q. Sir, will the majority of additional troops or units be other than American?

GENERAL WESTMORELAND. As Secretary McNamara pointed out, discussions will be taking place with our allies.

As to the number of Americans, I think it is impossible to say at this time. I think

the Secretary will agree with me. I am confident that we will welcome contributions from the free world forces.

SECRETARY McNAMARA. As the General pointed out, there will be significant increases in the Vietnamese forces. I believe the other allies will add to their forces as well.

Mr. Spivak: Thank you very much.

NOTE: President Johnson's one hundred and fourth news conference was held in the living quarters at the White House at 2:10 p.m. on Thursday, July 13, 1967.

As printed above, this item follows the text of the Official White House Transcript.

310 Letter to the Speaker of the House and to the Senate Majority Leader on the Railroad Strike. July 17, 1967

Dear Mr. Speaker: (Dear Senator Mansfield:)

I am sending this letter to you in response to your request for a review of the meeting we had yesterday and the current rail strike situation.

In the early hours of Sunday morning, the threat of a railroad strike became a grim reality. Affecting first the west and mid-west, the strike has now spread throughout the entire country, snarling our lines of commerce and leaving chaos and confusion in its wake.

By noon today, the Secretary of Transportation informs me that 80 to 90 percent of the Nation's rail lines will be down. By tonight, the stoppage will be total and rail paralysis will be complete.

As this crisis unfolded, the Secretaries of Defense, Transportation and Labor, the Attorney General and I met yesterday afternoon with the bipartisan Congressional Leadership and the Chairman and ranking majority and minority members of the appropriate Congressional committees. We discussed the action that must be taken to end the ruinous strike and to resolve finally the underlying dispute.

The consequences of the day-old strike—the first nation-wide railroad strike in over 20 years and only the second in the last 45

years—are already becoming clear to every American:

—This morning, hundreds of thousands of commuters found it difficult or impossible to get to their jobs.

—400,000 carloads of freight have already been stranded.

—Shipments of fresh vegetables, meats and other perishable foods have already been halted.

—Mail deliveries of packages and parcels, magazines and newspapers, have already been embargoed by the Post Office.

—Secretary McNamara has reported the strike is having "an immediate impact on the movement of ammunition and heavy equipment to Ports of Embarkation for Vietnam. Ammunition cars—a thousand each week—must move without interruption to support our fighting men in Vietnam."

Every minute and every hour the strike continues will create ever-increasing damage to our economic well being and America's national security.

The Nation has been more than patient.

The dispute is more than a year old. The parties have attempted unsuccessfully to reach agreement among themselves. Three labor boards have worked diligently and skillfully with the parties:

- The National Mediation Board, chaired by Francis O'Neill, the most experienced member of the Board.
- A Railway Labor Act Emergency Board headed by David Ginsburg, a distinguished Washington attorney with Frank Dugan, Professor of Law at Georgetown University, and John W. McConnell, President of the University of New Hampshire as members.
- The Special Panel appointed by the President, chaired by Judge Charles Fahy, with Dr. John Dunlop of Harvard and Dr. George Taylor of the University of Pennsylvania as members.

Despite the efforts of these three Boards, the parties to this dispute have been unable to come to an agreement. In each case, the union rejected the recommendations of the Board.

During the current round of railroad contract negotiation, over 500,000 union members—some 80% of the industry—have settled their differences with management through the processes of free collective bargaining. What then can we say of this shopcraft dispute?

We are witnessing, in this strike, a complete breakdown of private responsibility.

No man and no institution can stand above the American people and our men in uniform defending our country around the world.

There comes a time when the public interest must be paramount over private interests. That time is now.

On April 10th, with all the legal machinery available to a President exhausted and with a nationwide strike imminent, I asked the Congress to extend the no-strike period in this case for 20 more days to keep the parties talking in the hope that a solution could be found and a disastrous strike avoided.

On April 28, I again asked the Congress to extend the no-strike period, this time for 47 more days, while the parties searched for a solution.

Congress promptly and favorably responded to both of these requests.

On May 4th, after three boards had worked with the parties and after almost a year of negotiation, I submitted a recommendation to the Congress to resolve this protracted dispute fairly and finally. That was 75 days ago. This recommendation was shaped by the most experienced and skilled labor advisors available to a President. We were all determined to treat labor and management fairly. The recommendation was drawn from the procedures and experience of the War Labor Board which settled hundreds of labor disputes. It was designed to provide a just settlement for the working man and for the railroads, based on the record made by the parties themselves.

The Senate accepted the Administration's proposal, by a vote of 70-15, while the House struck from its bill that portion which would insure a final resolution to the dispute.

This case has moved slowly through Summer and Fall, Winter and Spring—and still another Summer—while the parties unsuccessfully tried to reach final agreement. Now the Nation is gripped by a crippling strike, but the parties are no closer to a solution than they were over a year ago.

Simply extending the no-strike period is a prescription without a cure. It will only postpone the day of settlement—already postponed for more than a year—for in 90 days the Nation and its fighting men will be faced again with the prospect of another crippling strike.

The parties to this dispute have tried to reach agreement and failed. Boards and Panels have tried and failed. Congressional Chairmen and Members of the Congress, the

Secretary of Labor and many other public officials have tried and failed. We are faced with a national crisis. The public interest must take precedence over private interests. The power to act now rests with the Congress.

As a prominent legislator commented yesterday "We have had a year of talk. It is time for action." I believe the American people share that view.

I therefore appeal to you to act swiftly on the proposal overwhelmingly passed by the Senate because of the urgent need to end the work stoppage and to resolve finally the dispute in the interests of the security, health and safety of America.

I assure you if the Congress will promptly and finally act, I will immediately appoint a blue ribbon board—with understanding of

both labor and management, but subservient to neither and I feel confident this dispute can be resolved with dispatch and with justice to all.

Sincerely,

LYNDON B. JOHNSON

NOTE: This is the text of identical letters addressed to the Honorable John W. McCormack, Speaker of the House of Representatives, and to the Honorable Mike Mansfield, Majority Leader of the Senate.

On July 16 the White House Press Office announced that the President had met that day with the bipartisan congressional leadership and the chairmen and ranking minority members of appropriate congressional committees. At the meeting, the release stated, the Members of Congress were informed of the impact of the railroad labor dispute by Secretary of Transportation Alan S. Boyd, Secretary of Defense Robert S. McNamara, Attorney General Ramsey Clark, and Secretary of Labor W. Willard Wirtz (3 Weekly Comp. Pres. Docs., p. 1022).

See also Items 170, 172, 174, 188, 194, 207, 311, 386.

311 Statement by the President Upon Signing Joint Resolution To Provide for Settlement of the Railroad Strike. *July 17, 1967*

THE MEASURE I have just signed brings a hopeful solution to this Nation in an hour of industrial crisis.

It should remove a grave threat to the security and well-being of every one of us.

We hope and believe that the rail strike which now paralyzes this country will be brought to an end at the earliest possible moment.

This will enable the products of our farms and factories to move freely once more.

This will enable the mails to be delivered once again.

It will permit vitally needed arms and supplies to be sent to our fighting forces in Vietnam—without interruption.

Most importantly, it provides the special machinery to settle fairly and finally the long dispute which caused this strike.

We had hoped that the parties would reach

their own agreement, without the need for legislation.

But for more than a year, companies and unions alike were unable to find a solution—despite the help of three special boards, Members of Congress, and the Secretary of Labor.

The result of that disagreement was a damaging and crippling strike. That strike is harming our Nation and jeopardizing the welfare of men in the Armed Forces throughout the world.

And so there comes a time when the public interest must prevail. It does so in the law I sign tonight.

The Nation owes much to the leadership and Members of both parties of Congress for their swift and overwhelming response to America's clear need.

Once again, in crisis, the public interest has been protected and well served.

We hope this crippling strike is about to end. And as its shadow lifts, we must begin anew the work of harmony and reason on which the greatness of our democracy is built.

NOTE: As enacted, the joint resolution (S.J. Res. 81) is Public Law 90-54 (81 Stat. 122).

On July 16 the President signed Executive Order 11362 "Providing for the Use of Transportation Priorities and Allocations During the Current Railroad Strike" (3 Weekly Comp. Pres. Docs., p. 1022; 32 F.R. 10495; 3 CFR, 1967 Comp., p. 308).

312 The President's News Conference of July 18, 1967

SPECIAL BOARD IN RAILWAY DISPUTE

THE PRESIDENT. [1.] George¹ thought you would want to have the names of the board members that we worked on last night and this morning.

We will have Mr. Fred Kappel, the former president of American Telephone and Telegraph. He has retired recently. He is now doing two other jobs—one is study the Post Office Department, and the other is the pay study for the President.

Q. Will he be chairman, Mr. President?

THE PRESIDENT. We will have Mr. Kappel and Mr. George Meany, the president of the AFL-CIO.

We will have Senator Leverett Saltonstall, a former Republican deputy leader, Chairman of the Armed Services Committee. You all know him. He is a former Governor of Massachusetts who is retired now.

We will have Mr. Ted Kheel, a skilled mediator who has worked with me many years on many problems. He was in the 1964 railroad labor dispute, as you will remember, with Mr. Taylor.² He has not worked on this one.

Senator Wayne Morse will be the chair-

man.³ I will attempt to see Senator Morse during the day. I haven't talked to him today, but I will call him during the day after the luncheon to review the situation with him and the other board members.

I am sure he will want to call a meeting of the board at an early date.

Of course, we are very hopeful that we can get an agreement between the parties.

VISIT OF GERMAN CHANCELLOR KIESINGER

[2.] Chancellor Kiesinger will be here on August 15 and 16. We have had several possible dates that we have considered. We have a number of visitors coming here in the next several weeks.

This is the most convenient date for both of us. It is firm. They will be announcing it there very shortly. That is all.

QUESTIONS

Q. Can I ask you about Chancellor Kiesinger, Mr. President?

THE PRESIDENT. Yes.

Q. Did you write a letter to him?

THE PRESIDENT. I don't discuss correspondence.

¹ George E. Christian, Special Assistant to the President.

² George W. Taylor, economist and labor arbitrator.

³ Senator Wayne Morse of Oregon held a press conference later in the day; see Weekly Compilation of Presidential Documents (vol. 3, p. 1034).

Q. Did you express any approval of the German defense decision? ⁴

THE PRESIDENT. I don't want to get into any correspondence.

SPECIAL BOARD IN RAILWAY DISPUTE

[3.] Q. Mr. President, can you tell us the mechanics and the time you signed the legislation yesterday ⁵ until now, when you communicated? Did anyone possibly refuse?

THE PRESIDENT. Shortly before 9 the legislation got to us. Our lawyers examined it. About 9:30 I signed it after talking to the Secretary of Labor, the Secretary of Defense, and other appropriate people. It normally goes to the departments but they were all familiar with it.

There had been some minor changes made. I went to dinner about 10:30, and then I talked to Mr. Kappel and Mr. Kheel. Mr. Kappel was in Switzerland. Mr. Kheel was in Paris.

I talked to Senator Morse and Senator Saltonstall. Mr. Meany was unavailable at a late hour. He was in Miami.

This morning I discussed the details of the situation further with Secretary McNamara, Secretary Wirtz, Secretary Reynolds,⁶ and others. I decided on the announcement at 11 o'clock. That is when it was finalized.

Q. And Saltonstall was last night, too?

THE PRESIDENT. I talked to these individuals concerned last night.

TAX INCREASE

[4.] Q. Mr. President, could you bring us up to date about your thinking on the

urgency and timing of the tax increase?

THE PRESIDENT. I made my recommendations in that connection in January. There may be some adjustments, although I have not decided on any.

The recommendations I made I still support, and have every month since I made them. I can understand the situation confronting the Congress, because of a very heavy load that certain committees have.

I am informed that the social security bill has been finalized during July. It is hoped that this will be behind us at the end of the month. Then it will be possible, if they choose to, to take up the tax bill, which I hope they will do.

I believe those recommendations very strongly. From a revenue standpoint we are going to need the revenue. The economists at the Federal Reserve and the Treasury and the Council of Economic Advisers are all of the unanimous opinion, as are most businessmen, that the economy would indicate that a tax bill would be a need, if we are to avoid the very heavy price we pay with tight money, et cetera.

Q. Mr. President, when the message went up in January, or when you discussed this in January, it was cast primarily as an anti-inflationary device, I believe.

THE PRESIDENT. I don't think anything is "primarily." I think we just felt that we ought to have a tax bill. We knew then we would have a substantial deficit.

We recommended \$8.1 billion. Without it, it would be some \$13 billion or \$14 billion, assuming we got all the revenue that we anticipated. So it is not primarily any one thing.

In this period of prosperity, when we have the employment and the gross national product we do, and when we have reduced taxes—we would be paying about \$24 billion more per year now than we are paying

⁴ The West German Cabinet had decided to reduce the defense budget as part of the nation's austerity program.

⁵ See Item 311.

⁶ James J. Reynolds, Under Secretary of Labor.

except for the tax reductions that we have put in since I became President—we do not think it is unreasonable to ask for the return of a small portion of that \$24 billion.

This would help us meet the costs of our schools, our health, our poverty program at home, and our needs throughout the world in foreign aid, in Vietnam, and in troop deployments in other places.

We thought that in January. We still think that. It would be good to help us reduce the deficit. It would be good from the standpoint of economy.

Q. Mr. President, are you standing by the 6 percent surcharge?

THE PRESIDENT. We recommended that. There could be adjustments. I made that recommendation in January, and up to now I haven't changed it.

Q. Mr. President, what would dictate the adjustment of that 6 percent figure?

THE PRESIDENT. I don't want to speculate. When I do, I will give you the word.

Q. Could you give us any indication whether you would be thinking in terms of a higher charge than 6?

THE PRESIDENT. When I do, I will let you know.

GOVERNORS

[5.] Q. Mr. President, there are three Governors in town on educational matters. Did you meet with them this morning?

THE PRESIDENT. No.

PROBLEMS OF THE CITIES

[6.] Q. Mr. President, I wonder whether we could have your views on what happened in New Jersey in the last couple of days—Newark and Plainfield.⁷

⁷ Racial disorders occurred in these cities in mid-July 1967 (see Items 321, 322, 325).

THE PRESIDENT. I don't think I have any more information on it than you have. I have sent many messages and said a number of times ever since I became President that we have had a great need to see that our people are employed, to see that we have more employment opportunities that are equal, better schools, better recreation areas, better living accommodations, and better housing.

We have tried to do our part in providing leadership in those fields. We think that we have a serious problem in our cities. For that reason, we have urged the rent supplement where we could get the benefit of private industry and provide decent living accommodations for the poorer groups in our country.

We think that program has been successful. We have urged the Congress to expand it. We feel that the model cities program is a good approach to improving living conditions in the cities of this country. While it is very limited, the administration has urged the Congress, last year and again this year, to act upon it.

Even though they have materially reduced our request, we still have asked the maximum under the authorization bill that was passed.

In the poverty field we doubled last year the amount we had the year before. We have asked for an increase of 25 percent this year to try to provide jobs. Over and above that we asked for a special allotment to provide summer job opportunities.

But all of these things have not remedied the situation that exists. Until we can improve and correct them, we are going to be confronted with unpleasant situations. No one condones or approves—and everyone regrets—the difficulties that come in the Watts, the Newark, and the other places in the country.

They do emphasize the necessity of the people of this country realizing that we must get on with the job of improving living conditions, educational and employment opportunities where the people are—and they are in the cities.

We can't correct it overnight. We can't correct it in a day or a year or a decade. But we are trying at this end of the line as best as we can—in rent supplements, model cities, poverty, education.

PRISONERS OF WAR IN VIETNAM

[7.] Q. Mr. President, have you had any response on the White House appeal concerning prisoners of war in Vietnam, concerning the statement yesterday allowing the exchange?⁸

THE PRESIDENT. No.

MEETING ON VIETNAM

[8.] Q. Mr. President, there have been some stories out of the Far East in the past 24 or 36 hours indicating, at least from the Thai point of view, expectation of a summit meeting much like the Manila Conference sometime in October. Do you anticipate that?

THE PRESIDENT. I anticipate that we will have a meeting at some future date—in the next few weeks or months. No time, place, or agenda has been set. We have generally agreed to meet every few months.

I would anticipate we would have a meeting. But I have heard of no specific time or date or place.

⁸ On July 17, 1967, the White House issued a statement on treatment of prisoners in Vietnam, the text of which follows:

The United States Government has been greatly concerned at the plight of Americans held prisoner by the National Liberation Front and North Viet-

U.N. ROLE IN VIETNAM PROBLEM

[9.] Q. Mr. President, on this Vietnam situation, before the latest Middle East crisis, there were indications that the administration might favor the U.N. Security Council taking up the problem of Vietnam, inviting perhaps representatives from Hanoi, China,

nam. More than 20 American soldiers and several American civilians are believed held by the National Liberation Front. We know that more than 160 American military personnel are confined in North Vietnam. Several hundred more are considered missing because the National Liberation Front and North Vietnam withhold the names of prisoners and generally prohibit most prisoners from sending letters. We are gravely concerned that some of these prisoners may not be treated humanely. The claims of the National Liberation Front and the North Vietnamese that they are treated humanely cannot be verified because neutral observers or organizations such as the International Committee of the Red Cross have not been allowed to visit the prisoners, and inspect their places of detention.

Vietcong and North Vietnamese prisoners held by the Government of Vietnam are confined in camps inspected regularly by the ICRC. These prisoners include many captured by U.S. forces and turned over to the Government of Vietnam for safekeeping under the provisions of the Geneva Convention. Their treatment and the conditions of their confinement have been humane and in accord with the Convention as verified by these neutral observers.

On several occasions prisoners including seriously sick and wounded have been released by the Government of Vietnam within South Vietnam and to North Vietnam. Additional seriously sick and wounded prisoners who may be captured in the future and who wish to be repatriated will be given the same opportunity, as required by the Geneva Convention.

The United States calls on the National Liberation Front and North Vietnam to permit impartial inspection of all prisoners, and urges them to repatriate those sick and wounded prisoners who qualify for repatriation under the Convention.

The Governments of the United States and Vietnam have repeatedly made clear both publicly and privately through many channels their desire to bring about an exchange of prisoners. The Government of the United States reiterates this desire and its willingness to discuss such exchanges at any time and in any appropriate way, using intermediaries or directly, by public means or privately.

and other parties involved to lay it before the Security Council.

Do you favor that?

THE PRESIDENT. I don't know of any developments that have taken place that I could announce at this time.

CASUALTIES IN VIETNAM

[10.] Q. Mr. President, this morning there was a story in the New York Times saying that—I believe it was since May—it was quite apparent in the casualty figures that Americans were bearing the brunt of the fighting, more Americans had been killed than South Vietnamese.

Do you have any comment on that?

THE PRESIDENT. No. I didn't see the story but I saw the report on television. In a specific period here—a period of 60 days perhaps—because of the location of the fighting the Americans lost more people than the South Vietnamese. There are other periods when they have lost a good deal more than we have. That will fluctuate back and forth from time to time.

If you take a period of the last month or the last 6 weeks—May and June—I think it is accurate to say that, because of where the fighting has been. If you take May and June of another year it will be reversed.

I don't think we really gain anything by pointing out that this country or that country lost more yesterday than the one the day before. I think all the countries are doing the best they can in a united front against a common foe.

I wouldn't want to play much on having any of them feel that the others weren't doing their part or that some people were doing a lot more than their part.

Our job is to try to get them to do all they can do. There have been periods when the South Vietnamese have lost more than we

have lost and may be days when any one of the allies would lose more.

This is a selective period as I saw it—May and June up to now—and is a true figure although it is not different by any great amount.

ALLIED TROOPS IN VIETNAM

[11.] Q. Mr. President, could you tell us anything about the progress of consultations with the allied governments about increasing the troop level in Vietnam?

THE PRESIDENT. We are in constant touch with them through our Ambassadors. We usually start at the level of General Westmoreland and their people out in the field.

I have had no direct communications with them of late on it, although I am not foreclosing it.

ARMS SHIPMENTS IN MIDDLE EAST

[12.] Q. Mr. President, what is happening to our efforts to hold down arms shipments in the Middle East by us with the Russians?

THE PRESIDENT. We made a proposal that all of us file with the United Nations a statement as to the amount of shipments that have been made. We have not been able to get an agreement on that. We talked about it at Hollybush in Glassboro.⁹ It was hoped the other nations would do likewise. As of now, there has been no agreement.

SOVIET CHAIRMAN KOSYGIN

[13.] Q. Mr. President, what is your estimate of Mr. Kosygin and his place in the Soviet scheme of things?

THE PRESIDENT. I would not care to go

⁹ See Items 279, 280, 282, 283.

into an analysis of their governmental structure. I thought him to be a very able exponent of their viewpoint and a well-prepared speaker for the Soviet interests.

REPORTS OF BOMBING HALT IN NORTH VIETNAM

[14.] Q. Mr. President, there have been reports in Japanese newspapers and British newspapers quoting unnamed U.S. officials as saying that the United States was considering a halt in the bombing of North Vietnam. Can you shed any light on that for us?

THE PRESIDENT. No, I am not familiar with the reports there. I have more reports in American newspapers than I can keep up with.

I think we have always made it clear from the first day that we were ready to negotiate when there was anyone with whom we could negotiate—outside of this country. We have a lot of people in this country to negotiate with.

Mr. Ho Chi Minh made clear his views in his letter.¹⁰ We have made our position clear from time to time—that we were ready and anxious to go to the conference table and meet the other side halfway at any time, but we have no indication at this time that they are willing to do that.

U.S. ATTITUDE TOWARD RED CHINA

[15.] Q. Mr. President, there have been a number of reports about shifting our feelings towards Red China. They came out of your talk with the Prime Minister of Romania. Would you care to comment on your feelings about our attitude?

THE PRESIDENT. We have made it clear in a good many statements since I became

President that we would like to see all of the nations of the world join in the community of nations and try to learn to work together and to live together in peace and harmony.

We repeat that on every appropriate occasion. I have discussed our views in that regard with a number of leaders from other countries. I know of no change from the policy that I have had ever since I have been President.

BOMBING OF NORTH VIETNAM

[16.] Q. Mr. President, may I follow up Mr. Deakin's¹¹ question and your answer? Is the United States position that we would only be willing to stop the bombing if there were reciprocal action on their side?

THE PRESIDENT. The United States position is that we are ready to meet with them at any time to discuss arrangements for bringing the war to an end on an equitable and just basis. We have never been able to get them or any of their friends to bring them to a conference table.

Until we can, we are not able to explore with them what they might be willing to do. We hear from travelers and from self-appointed spokesmen from time to time this and that. On occasions we have attempted to confirm it, and we have negotiated directly with them.

I think the last position stated by Mr. Ho Chi Minh is a safe statement of their viewpoint. I refer you—as I did Mr. Deakin—to their position as enumerated in that letter. Our position is that we would be glad to meet tomorrow, next week, or any time to discuss conditionally or unconditionally, on any basis, to see what they would be willing to do.

¹⁰ See Item 136.

¹¹ James Deakin of the St. Louis Post-Dispatch.

BRITISH INTEREST IN MALAYSIA
AND SINGAPORE

[17.] Q. Mr. President, Britain brought out a Defense White Paper this morning in which it was planned to withdraw British troops from Malaysia and Singapore by the mid-1970's. Do you have any comment on that?

THE PRESIDENT. Yes, we have expressed ourselves as very hopeful that the British would maintain their interest in that part of the world. We are very hopeful that they will find it in their interest to do so.

OLD CITY OF JERUSALEM

[18.] Q. Mr. President, have we had any further response from the Israeli Government concerning our proposals on keeping the Old City of Jerusalem international in character so that all religions would have access to the shrines there?

THE PRESIDENT. I know of no decisions that have been made in that area.

Merriman Smith, United Press International: Thank you, Mr. President.

NOTE: President Johnson's one hundred and fifth news conference was held in his office at the White House at 11:10 a.m. on Tuesday, July 18, 1967. As printed above, this item follows the text of the Official White House Transcript.

313 Toasts of the President and President Asgeirsson of Iceland. July 18, 1967

President Asgeirsson, Mr. Vice President, Mr. Foreign Minister Jonsson, Mr. Ambassador Thorsteinsson, ladies and gentlemen:

Mr. President, I greet you as the latest, but far from the first, Icelander to visit these shores.

You came by air in a matter of hours. But over 900 years ago another band of brave Icelanders sailed west in longboats to discover a land they called "Vinland."

It has been alleged on very high political—rather than historical—authority that they traveled inland, settled, and voted. In fact, the distinguished Vice President, in one of his rare expansive moments, has been known to claim them as the founders of the Minnesota Democratic Party.

I haven't confirmed that from Ambassador Rolvaag, but he is here for consultation.

The land that they found was far different from the one you see today. Yet Iceland and America have a great deal in common. Both were built by pioneers, by men who jour-

nayed into the unknown, across a forbidding sea or an uncharted wilderness. Both of our peoples came to find freedom. Both founded nations that today have a long and honored tradition of liberty and of justice.

America has the world's oldest written constitution; Iceland has the world's oldest parliament. It occurs to me, Mr. President, that experience with parliaments might help me solve some of the problems that I have today.

It is symbolic of our common history that only last week 24 of our finest young men, our brave American astronauts—the real pioneers of our day—returned from a training mission to your country. The cordial reception they received from your people reminded me of my own visit to Iceland in 1963.

I have never forgotten that visit. I learned how much Iceland can teach the world about the fruitful life of people who live in freedom:

—Iceland has the highest literacy rate in the world.

—Iceland has eliminated extreme poverty.

—Iceland has a free democratic government in which all of her citizens take part.

Iceland is known as the land of ice and fire. I saw your great snow fields and glaciers, your volcanoes, and your warm springs. But ice and fire refer not only to these. There is ice in the cold determination of your people to preserve and protect the democratic institutions that we all cherish so much. And there is fire—and a great deal of fire—always in your support of peace and freedom.

Ladies and gentlemen, Iceland and America are alike in their origins—and alike in their objectives. I should like for all of you to now join me in a toast to the President of an old country and a firm friend.

NOTE: The President proposed the toast at 2:28 p.m. at a luncheon in the State Dining Room at the White House. In his opening words he referred to Asgeir Asgeirsson, President of Iceland, Hubert H. Humphrey, Vice President of the United States, Emil Jonsson, Minister of Foreign Affairs of Iceland, and Petur Thorsteinsson, Icelandic Ambassador to the United States. Later he referred to Karl F. Rolvaag, U.S. Ambassador to Iceland. As printed this item follows the text released by the White House Press Office.

President Asgeirsson responded as follows:

Mr. President and Mrs. Johnson, Excellencies, ladies and gentlemen:

I thank President Johnson for the kind words that he has spoken about my country and my people.

It is with gratitude that I have accepted the invitation to meet the President and his wife here at the White House. I recall with pleasure the visit that you as Vice President and Mrs. Johnson paid to Iceland a few years ago. Such visits and personal contacts are most valuable for promoting friendship and understanding between nations.

Our country is the nearest European neighbor to America. Thus it was not only by chance that an Icelander became the first white man to set foot on American shores, as you mentioned, and that an Icelandic family made the first attempt to settle here in the New World.

These historical facts are commemorated by the

statues of Leif Eriksson in Reykjavik and Newport News—that statue in Reykjavik is a gift of the United States Congress on the Icelandic Parliament's 1,000 years anniversary—and the statues of Thorfinnur Karlsefni, who tried to settle here in this country, are in Philadelphia and also in Reykjavik.

A thousand years ago the Nordic population was too small to sustain the beachheads they had established on the American shores. But as you mentioned, nearly 900 years later, and since, many Icelanders have established themselves in this country. The Icelandic immigrants and their descendants have helped to further friendship and good relations between our nations.

The Second World War brought our two nations much closer together than ever before and close, friendly relations have been maintained since. Our small nation was isolated for centuries in the middle of the Atlantic, out of sight and touch with other lands, somewhat like the people of the Midwest, who did not see the oceans. Like the midwesterners, we tended to believe in the security of isolation.

But times and conditions have changed. Isolation, language, and literature protected the Icelandic nationality for centuries. Now isolation is a thing of the past in Iceland as in most other countries. The revolution in transportation and communications has made all countries neighbors. No country can be isolated and self-sufficient in times of crisis. Friendly relations and security arrangements are necessary under present conditions. The lesson of the Second World War should certainly not be forgotten. Short memory is a serious fault.

We had certainly wished that the United Nations could have been sufficiently strong to protect world peace. Although the United Nations has proven to be a valuable international forum with substantial accomplishments to its account, it has been handicapped by the lack of a strong executive power.

Such was the system of government during the first 300 years of Icelandic history, which also led to the downfall of the old republic. The disunity and lack of power of the United Nations has necessitated the formation of such defense agreements as the NATO, in which we both are partners.

Our cooperation in defense matters is good and close. We are fortunate to have only good neighbors in the North Atlantic. I like to recall the lend-lease agreement which we made in 1941, subsequent to our first defense agreement with the United States. We, who negotiated that agreement, had often daily meetings in the State Department and remember seeing in the corridors the pre-Pearl Harbor Japanese negotiators. While in Halifax on our way back home, we heard the news about the attack on Pearl Harbor. That was a moment none of us will forget.

I recall also with gratitude the Marshall Plan

which provided Iceland, together with other European countries, with much needed economic aid. The Marshall Plan was impressive and unique and achieved its goal of European recovery. We, like so many other countries, have a good reason to recall what the United States has done for the defense of national independence and democracy and for economic development all over the world.

This has been possible only because the vigor and wealth of the United States has been matched by the intelligence and imagination of its political leaders. We follow with admiration your ceaseless efforts, Mr. President, in providing better and fairer living for all your citizens in the true liberal traditions of your country.

It is vital for a small country to have good neighbors. Historical and natural rights are not always sufficient. We live in the middle of the North Atlantic, on both sides of which are the oldest and soundest democracies. We are closest to these countries geographically, historically, and culturally. In our times, the North Atlantic is the Mediterranean of the free world.

Mr. President, I want again to extend to you, and your charming wife, my deepest thanks for your hospitality. Your invitation is a great honor to me and the Icelandic people.

Allow me to propose a toast to the President of the United States.

314 Message to the Congress Transmitting National Science Foundation Report on Weather Modification. *July 19, 1967*

To the Congress of the United States:

I am pleased to transmit the Eighth Annual Report of the National Science Foundation covering the activities of the Federal Government in the field of weather modification during fiscal year 1966.

To some, a storm is but an inconvenience, a fog is but an hour's delay. But to millions of others—in America and around the world—the weather can spell the difference between shelter and homelessness, between nourishment and starvation, between life and death.

This Report provides clear evidence that progress is being made toward our goal of developing the capacity to modify the weather for the benefit of all mankind.

In the period covered by this Report, we found that:

- Precipitation from some types of clouds may be increased by as much as ten per cent by seeding.
- Seeding of thunderstorm clouds may reduce significantly the number of lightning strikes.
- The incidence of hail may be reduced

by heavy seeding.

—Large bodies of cold ground fog may be dissipated through the use of dry ice or silver iodide.

—Mathematical models will be increasingly useful for experimentation with techniques for controlling hurricanes and tornadoes.

For all our progress, we have still only scratched the surface. To develop the full potential of weather modification, we must continue our research and experimentation. We must bring to the effort our best skills and our most advanced technologies. We must better organize our efforts in this area.

And we must join with other nations in the search for solutions, for the weather respects no national boundary.

I commend this Report—of progress and of challenge—to your attention.

LYNDON B. JOHNSON

The White House

July 19, 1967

NOTE: The report is entitled "Weather Modification; Eighth Annual Report, 1966" (Government Printing Office, 132 pp.).

315 Remarks at an Award Ceremony in Connection With the Federal Employee Savings Bond Program. July 19, 1967

General O'Brien, members of the Cabinet, ladies and gentlemen:

We appreciate so much your coming here today to participate in this ceremony. We are indeed privileged to share it with you. This is a very proud moment for all of us.

The Cabinet and I have been meeting. We have been delayed, because we had several Cabinet members and the President giving reports. We just couldn't finish any earlier.

We had not budgeted our time properly, but we hope that you will be understanding.

This 1967 campaign set a 21-year record for savings bond sales.

—Almost 80 percent of all the people employed by the Federal Government bought bonds.

—34 agencies reached the campaign goal of 80 percent participation. This is a better record than at any time since World War II.

—15 agencies have come here today so that we could honor them. They achieved at least 90 percent participation.

I am very pleased to note that every employee who works here in this house was willing to cooperate with his President and with his country and signed up to buy bonds.

I also welcome the National Aeronautics and Space Council, headed by the Vice President, who are added to the 100 percent ranks.

This is very strong evidence of our determination to meet our responsibilities here at home and to deliver on our commitments in other places in the world. It also demonstrates our wholehearted support of those Americans who are out there at this moment

fighting and dying for us. Sometimes we don't take enough time to be aware of the sacrifices they are making, in order that we might enjoy the liberty and freedom that we talk so much about here at home.

The men and women in our armed services are not only out there protecting our liberties, but they set a very fine example for the rest of us. The 1967 slogan says, "Buy bonds where you work. They do."

In the first quarter of this year, our fighting men bought \$90 million worth of bonds.

A few days ago, I saw a short film that had been made where a helicopter pilot in Vietnam was asked the question: "Why do you buy bonds?"

He said, "I am doing a favor for my country." At the same time, he said, "The way I got it figured out, my country is doing a favor for me, too."

I think that should be the spirit of our savings bond program.

That should be the spirit that is spread across our country. That should be the spirit that reaches into every corner of the globe where we have Federal installations, where we have Federal offices.

I particularly congratulate the agencies that we are honoring here today.

I am still old-fashioned enough to feel a little better, smile a little broader, when I see people who work for their Government want to help their Government, who revere their flag, who try to support the financial demands and who try to be equal to their obligation—whatever it is, wherever it is.

I remember as a child participating in the thrift stamps of World War I and working

with groups in every training camp over the country, when we honored our men, urging that you go out and buy bonds in all of our installations.

I remember I spent a week with Jack Dempsey. I remember going from one camp to the other in World War II.

Just because we don't call this World War I or World War II, we still have responsibilities, we still have obligations, we still have great needs. We are calling upon our people and the Federal employees ought to set the example for the rest of the country.

There will be some who for some reason or other can't participate. We won't criticize them. We won't quarrel with them. We just feel sorry for them, because we hope that tomorrow their situation can improve where they can help their country as much as they have to help themselves and their families today.

Actually, I never have understood a person who couldn't find it within him to want to

be a part of the thrift stamp or the bond program, or any other need that his country had of him at that time.

To those of you who have shown that you not only have the ability but you have the determination to stand high on that roster, I salute you. To those who may not have come up to it yet, we express the hope that you will get better with age.

NOTE: The President spoke at 1:33 p.m. in the East Room at the White House. In his opening words he referred to Postmaster General Lawrence F. O'Brien, who served as Chairman of the Interdepartmental Savings Bond Committee.

The President presented the awards to representatives of the winning agencies, who were introduced by Mr. O'Brien. The winning agencies, listed in order of percentage of participation, follow: the White House, National Aeronautics and Space Council, Tennessee Valley Authority, Selective Service System, Treasury Department, Defense Contract Audit Agency, Farm Credit Administration, Small Business Administration, Federal Home Loan Bank Board, Office of Science and Technology, General Services Administration, Housing and Urban Development Department, Bureau of the Budget, Railroad Retirement Board, and Defense Supply Agency.

316 Statement by the President on the Death of John T. McNaughton. *July 19, 1967*

THE AIR CRASH in North Carolina has made this a tragic afternoon for many American families. Among those we mourn is a family that many of us in Government know, admire, and will deeply miss. John McNaughton, his wife, and youngest son have been taken from us with cruel suddenness. Their loss can only be measured by the emptiness it will leave in American hearts and the pages of American history.

For six and one-half arduous and decisive years, John McNaughton served in the highest councils of our Government. His devoted wife served beside him. He was soon to be-

come Secretary of the Navy—and this adds a special poignancy to his death. For it reminds us again of the rare breadth of his abilities, the selflessness of his great energies and talents, the enormity of the loss suffered by all free men who have found, so long, pride and inspiration in John McNaughton's example.

NOTE: The President's nomination of Assistant Secretary of Defense John T. McNaughton to serve as Secretary of the Navy was announced by the White House on June 10, 1967. The nomination was submitted to the Senate on June 12 and confirmed on June 29.

317 Statement by the President on Announcing the Recipients of the President's Award for Distinguished Federal Civilian Service.

July 19, 1967

THESE SIX remarkable men are modern pioneers. We live today in a world of such rapid change in science, international affairs, and socio-economic patterns that traditional, inherited knowledge is no longer sufficient to solve urgent problems. We must seek new answers from people who have sought and mastered new knowledge, from people unafraid to voice constructive discontent with tried but no longer true methods, from people with the energy and the initiative to break through the long-accepted boundaries of action. Such are the six selected for this high civilian honor, and we are both fortunate and proud to have them in our Nation's public service.

We are fortunate and proud, also, to have in the Federal Government the kind of civilian career service that can attract persons of such outstanding excellence and afford scope and opportunity for the exercise of their superlative talents. In honoring these men we recognize anew the extraordinary qualities of skill, energy, and dedication that are to be found in the career ranks of the Federal service.

NOTE: The President's statement was made public as part of a White House release announcing the recipients of the 1967 President's Award for Distinguished Federal Civilian Service, the highest honor conferred on a career employee of the Federal Government. The release noted that 46 persons, recommended by an advisory board and selected by the

President, had received the award since the beginning of the program in 1957 (3 Weekly Comp. Pres. Docs., p. 1037).

The names of the six 1967 recipients follow: Myrl E. Alexander, Director, Federal Bureau of Prisons, Department of Justice, cited as "a progressive and farsighted administrator" who has "pioneered, developed, and led to reality more effective methods of treatment in correctional institutions, which have increased the offender's capacity to reenter community life as a responsible citizen"; Arthur E. Hess, Director, Bureau of Health Insurance, Social Security Administration, Department of Health, Education, and Welfare, cited as having "organized and launched, in record time and with remarkable success, the complicated and far-reaching Medicare program"; Sherman Kent, Director of National Estimates and Chairman of the Board of National Estimates, Central Intelligence Agency, cited as "a distinguished scholar and creative pioneer in the theory and practice of foreign intelligence," who has been "an inspiring leader in the intelligence community and a wise counselor to the highest officials of the Government"; C. Payne Lucas, Deputy Director, Africa Region, Peace Corps, cited as an "inspired and inspiring leader of Peace Corps Volunteers," who has been "a vital force in guiding Volunteers and staff to new levels of accomplishment and friendship in the developing countries of Africa"; William J. Porter, Ambassador to the Republic of Korea, Department of State, cited as having "pioneered in unifying United States civilian aid programs in South Vietnam and greatly increased their effectiveness in improving the lot of the Vietnamese people in the villages and rural areas"; and Carl F. Romney, seismologist, Department of the Air Force, cited as "an eminent scientist in the field of seismology . . . [who] has made outstanding contributions to the development of a control system for underground nuclear tests and thereby has enhanced international cooperation in the interest of world peace."

318 Statement by the President on the Failure of the House To Act on the Rat Extermination Act. *July 20, 1967*

THE EFFECT of today's House action, in denying a rule to the rat extermination act, is a cruel blow to the poor children of

America.

Every year thousands of those children—many of them babies—are bitten by rats in

their homes and tenements. Some are killed. Many are disfigured for life.

The amount of money needed to fight this national shame is small. But the stakes—the health of our children and of every city dweller—are very great.

We are spending Federal funds to protect our livestock from rodents and predatory animals. The least we can do is give our children the same protection that we give our livestock.

I hope that those in the House who have voted against this program will reexamine their position. I hope they will vote to defend the children who are now menaced by rats.

NOTE: Rat control was included as a provision of the Partnership for Health Amendments of 1967, approved by the President on December 5, 1967 (see Item 520).

The statement was read by George E. Christian, Special Assistant to the President, at his news briefing at 4:45 p.m. on Thursday, July 20, 1967, in the Fish Room at the White House. It was not made public in the form of a White House press release.

319 Remarks Following a Tour of Inspection at the National Institutes of Health, Bethesda, Maryland. July 21, 1967

THE THING I want to say first is that I wish very much each of you could have been with me and seen the enthusiasm and hope, and heard the encouragement that came from these great scientists, these doctors, who are doing so much to make life better and longer in this world.

We ran overtime and we had to eliminate some of our briefing. Our topics were what we are doing in the field of vision, in the field of hypertension, in the field of cancer, in the field of that dread number one killer—heart disease, all of which will very likely confront each of you out there when you reach that milestone in life when these things appear.

Then you will wonder why for 50, 60, or 70 years you have given no thought, no support, or no attention to it. But then it will be too late for you to do much about it because there will be a good many people standing around your room trying to preserve your life.

This is a billion-dollar success story—NIH. This is where I like to come once a year—and more often if possible—to learn what they are doing, in order to try to help them more.

The Gospel of St. John tells of a place where the lame and the halt and the blind went to be cured. That ancient place was called Bethesda.

Two thousand years later, this place called Bethesda also is the place where the sick and the injured can have some hope.

This morning we heard about the modern miracles of healing which have been discovered here—in the last year, particularly—and the progress that has been made since we were here last.

Dr. Shannon and the other NIH Directors have given me a rather full report. They have responded with knowledge and candor to all the questions that we propounded. They have given me a report on some of the matters that we raised last year when we met at the White House.

I should like for them to know—and for all the world to know—that I regard these men as my chiefs of staff in this war on the ancient enemies—sickness and disease. We constantly review our strategy for attacking these major health problems that confront this Nation and other nations in the world.

The progress we are making is slow. I am glad to say, though, we are going up instead

of going down.

Some, I am sure—the hotshots—would think we have reached what you might call a stalemate, because we have not found all the answers to all the questions in all the 365 days since we last ran our check—our final exam.

But, there are two or three little things I want to point out, as kind of guiding beacons.

Two years ago, for example, there was an outbreak of rubella—German measles—in America. It caused 30,000 abnormal pregnancies. It killed thousands of little babies. It left thousands of others cruelly afflicted.

There lived near my home, very close to me, some people who worked with me who were afflicted by deafness and mental defects.

But in 2 years, today as a result of research here where you are this morning, a new vaccine to prevent a mother from ever getting German measles has already been developed. Our scientists are working day and night so that we can have an adequate supply of this vaccine available by the early 1970's when the next rubella outbreak is predicted for this country.

This is one small, dramatic example of how this place affects the lives of all of you and of all Americans.

Dr. Shannon has just reported to me that the latest statistics show that infant mortality during the last 12 months took its sharpest downward drop in 10 years. It meant 4,700 babies lived this year who would have died the previous year. It meant 9,400 babies lived this year who would have died, if they had just been born 10 years ago.

Ten thousand lives saved in 10 years. Maybe that is not many, but if you are one of the families affected by one of those 10,000, it is everything.

Research supported by NIH has developed new chemicals and new techniques which

are saving thousands of Americans every year from blindness.

We talked this morning about what new procedures could be evolved to detect eye problems at an early age, to detect heart problems before they go too far, to detect hypertension problems—blood clots, blood problems, high blood pressure—or to detect cancer before it spreads and it is gone and it is beyond hope.

Maybe we ought to get some of the people who spent so much time detecting the deficiencies in our automobile, and examining our brake, testing our steering, and testing our headlights, to test our children.

Because, as I said yesterday, if we can spend literally millions to protect our cows from the screwworms, why can't we spend a little money to protect our children from the rats.

Nine hundred thousand women were tested for cervical cancer this past year under a program here at NIH—one million women. Three thousand cases were found—early enough to do something about them and to cure them. Three thousand more lives saved.

I don't know how much you put on life, but that is what was done here.

NIH research has speeded the development of new chemicals for high blood pressure which have already reduced deaths by 50 percent.

I had a young man in my office whose life was preserved for years because of a great discovery that was made in this field. It meant a lot to me personally, because I saw this great doctor here in Washington keep him living day to day, when most of them had given him up.

One person out of every two who would have died of high blood pressure 10 years ago is living today. One person out of five, under the age of 65, who would have died of

a stroke 10 years ago is living today.

All of these achievements are not the fruits of the Presidency or the Democratic Party or the Federal Government. They are the fruits of the world's greatest research enterprise. It knows no partisanship, no dictator, or no ruler. They are all aimed at just one thing—just one goal: a better, freer, happier, healthier life for all people.

That is something that ought to unite even the most controversial among us. Even the most cynical should be able to embrace that goal.

This morning I came here to renew my commitment to that goal, to applaud the efforts of these men—just a small percentage of whom are here on the platform—and their attempts to help us reach it, and to discuss with all those I could our future endeavors, and to plan our future programs.

If we are to build a society which guarantees good health for all, we must build it upon very solid foundations.

First and foremost is basic research: the pursuit of knowledge for its own sake. Because we are human, we explore; we seek to understand the deepest mysteries of our world. The Government supports this creative exploration because we believe that all knowledge is precious; because we know that all progress would halt without it.

But tomorrow's healthy society rests not on our scientists or our medical men only, but it rests also on our political leaders. As you can observe, what they did yesterday may affect what these men do tomorrow.

We have long passed the day when medical research is a job just for some "screwball" in some lonely, makeshift laboratory. Research involves armies of trained technicians, batteries of computers, staggering sums of money.

I remember when I first came here, hearing Frank Bane tell the story of the man in

the Virginia State Senate deploring the waste that had occurred when they hired some young college boy, who ran up and down the highways with his shirt tail out, peeping through some little instrument. Why would the people of Virginia have been called upon to waste their money on this college kid to just run up and down the roadway trying to survey it?

Well, when you drive through some of Virginia's roads today, you can see.

So the driving force in this country today for research is government. There is a reason for that: Government is the only one that can really provide the means.

Today the Federal Government supports nearly two-thirds of the total Nation's expenditures on health research. Two-thirds of everything spent in this Nation on health research, the Federal Government spends.

And you here at NIH spend 60 percent of all the Federal Government spends. So we are here where, as I said, this is a billion-dollar success story. I want that story to be known by 200 million Americans.

Today the scientists and the medical men decide how to attack a major medical problem, but they depend on public men making political decisions to decide whether to attack that problem.

I have spent hours in appropriations hearings listening to health problems presented—and a good many of them ignored.

I remembered on my way out of that room this morning where I heard these men testify, walking out of the Appropriations Committee one time and hearing them testify about wanting money to use on flies to prevent the development of screwworm to keep the screwworm from getting into cattle, and to keep it from destroying the cattle and killing the baby calves.

Every time a baby calf was born, he was subject to the screwworm. Some lived and

some didn't. To save great labor that ranchmen spent going out and picking up the little calves that were half dead, finally the Congress went along and endorsed a program.

Now the whole Southwest no longer knows the screwworm. Through the appropriations the Congress passed—the cattlemen supplemented—we no longer have to have labor to ride out and pick up every little baby calf.

Someday we are going to get intelligent enough to treat our children the same way.

We made some progress with 10,000 of them this year. But we are not going to have to wait until they get into the 10th or 11th grade to see that their eyes have been affected all their lives.

You wouldn't want to test an automobile that had been driven 11 years before you decided it was fit for the highway.

Somehow we are going to find ways to detect the heart problems, the vision problems, the hearing problems, the blood pressure problems, the hypertension problems—all of those, in our children and in ourselves—and the cancer problems, before they are too far gone.

There is no use in opening someone up and saying, "It is too far gone. I can't do anything about it."

It can be done. It must be done—with the help of God and you it will be done.

Thank you.

NOTE: The President spoke at 12:45 p.m. in the Auditorium of the Clinical Center at the National Institutes of Health, Bethesda, Md. During his remarks he referred to James A. Shannon, Director, National Institutes of Health, and Frank Bane, former Government official who served as Director of Field Operations for the Office of Price Administration during World War II.

320 Statement by the President on the Death of Carl Sandburg. *July 22, 1967*

THE ROAD has come to an end for Carl Sandburg, my friend and the good companion of millions whose own life journeys have been ennobled and enriched by his poetry.

But there is no end to the legacy he leaves us.

Carl Sandburg was more than the voice of America, more than the poet of its strength and genius. He was America. We knew and cherished him as the bard of democracy, the echo of the people, our conscience, and chronicler of truth and beauty and purpose.

Carl Sandburg needs no epitaph. It is written for all time in the fields, the cities, the face and heart of the land he loved and the people he celebrated and inspired.

With the world, we mourn his passing. It is our special pride and fortune as Americans that we will always hear Carl Sandburg's voice within ourselves. For he gave us the truest and most enduring vision of our own greatness.

NOTE: Mr. Sandburg died on July 22 at the age of 89 at his home in Flat Rock, N.C.

321 Telegram in Reply to Governor Romney's Request for Federal Troop Assistance in Detroit. *July 24, 1967*

IN RESPONSE to your official request, joined by Mayor Cavanagh, that federal

troops be sent to assist local and state police and the 8000 Michigan National Guards-

men under your command, and on the basis of your representation that there is reasonable doubt that you can maintain law and order in Detroit, I have directed the troops you requested to proceed at once to Selfridge Air Force Base, Michigan. There they will be available for immediate deployment as required to support and assist police and the Michigan National Guard forces. These federal troops will arrive at Selfridge this afternoon. Immediately, I have instructed Cyrus Vance, Special Assistant to Secretary of Defense McNamara, to proceed to Detroit for conferences with you and to make specific plans for providing you with such support and assistance as may be necessary.

LYNDON B. JOHNSON

[The Honorable George Romney, Governor of Michigan, Lansing, Michigan]

NOTE: The text of Governor Romney's telegram, dated July 24, is as follows:

With further reference to present Detroit problem covered in my earlier telegram to the Attorney General.

As Governor of the State of Michigan, I do hereby officially request the immediate employment of federal troops into Michigan to assist State and local authorities in reestablishing law and order in the city of Detroit. I am joined in this request by Jerome P. Cavanagh, Mayor of the city of Detroit. There is reasonable doubt that we can suppress the existing looting, arson and sniping without the assistance of federal troops. Time could be of the essence.

GEORGE ROMNEY
Governor of Michigan

See also Items 322, 325, 331.

322 Remarks to the Nation After Authorizing the Use of Federal Troops in Detroit. *July 24, 1967*

IN THE early morning today, Governor Romney communicated with Attorney General Ramsey Clark and told him of the extreme disorder in Detroit, Michigan. The Attorney General kept me advised throughout the morning.

At 10:56 this morning, I received a wire from Governor Romney officially requesting that Federal troops be dispatched to Michigan. This wire had been sent at 10:46 a.m.

At 11:02 a.m. this morning, I instructed the Secretary of Defense, Mr. McNamara, to initiate the movement of the troops which the Governor had requested.

At the same time, I advised the Governor by telegram that the troops would be sent to Selfridge Air Base just northeast of Detroit and would be available to support and to assist the some 8,000 Michigan National Guardsmen and the several thousand State and local police under the command of Governor Romney and the mayor of Detroit.

I informed the Governor that these troops would arrive this afternoon.

I also informed the Governor that immediately Mr. Cyrus Vance, as Special Assistant to the Secretary of Defense, and others would proceed to Detroit for conferences with the Governor and other appropriate officials.

This plan proceeded precisely as scheduled. Approximately 5,000 Federal troops were on their way by airlift to Detroit, Michigan, within a few hours. Mr. Vance, General Throckmorton, and others were in Detroit and in conference with Governor Romney by the middle of this afternoon.

Their initial report was that it then appeared that the situation might be controlled without bringing the Federal troops from the Selfridge Air Force Base into downtown Detroit. They, therefore, recommended to the President that the troops be maintained on a 30-minute alert and they advised that they would be in continual touch with the

situation and with Secretary McNamara and me, making periodic reports about every 30 minutes.

At approximately 10:30 this evening, Mr. Vance and General Throckmorton reported to me by telephone that it was the then unanimous opinion of all the State and Federal officials who were in consultation—including Governor Romney, Mr. Vance, General Throckmorton, the mayor, and others—that the situation had developed in such a way in the few intervening hours as to make the use of Federal troops to augment the police and Michigan National Guard imperative. They described the situation in considerable detail, including the violence and deaths that had occurred in the past few hours, and submitted as the unanimous judgment of all concerned that the situation was totally beyond the control of the local authorities.

On the basis of this confirmation of the need for participation by Federal troops, and pursuant to the official request made by the Governor of the State of Michigan, in which Mayor Cavanagh of Detroit joined, I forthwith issued the necessary proclamation and Executive order as provided by the Constitution and the statutes.

I advised Mr. Vance and General Throckmorton to proceed immediately with the transportation of the Federal troops from Selfridge Air Force Base to places of deployment within Detroit—a movement which they had already provisionally begun, pursuant to their authority.

I am sure the American people will realize that I take this action with the greatest regret—and only because of the clear, unmistakable, and undisputed evidence that Governor Romney of Michigan and the local officials in Detroit have been unable to bring the situation under control.

Law enforcement is a local matter. It is

the responsibility of local officials and the Governors of the respective States. The Federal Government should not intervene—except in the most extraordinary circumstances.

The fact of the matter, however, is that law and order have broken down in Detroit, Michigan.

Pillage, looting, murder, and arson have nothing to do with civil rights. They are criminal conduct. The Federal Government in the circumstances here presented had no alternative but to respond, since it was called upon by the Governor of the State and since it was presented with proof of his inability to restore order in Michigan.

We will not tolerate lawlessness. We will not endure violence. It matters not by whom it is done or under what slogan or banner. It will not be tolerated. This Nation will do whatever it is necessary to do to suppress and to punish those who engage in it.

I know that with few exceptions the people of Detroit, and the people of Newark, and the people of Harlem, and of all of our American cities, however troubled they may be, deplore and condemn these criminal acts. I know that the vast majority of Negroes and whites are shocked and outraged by them.

So tonight, your President calls upon all of our people, in all of our cities, to join in a determined program to maintain law and order—to condemn and to combat lawlessness in all of its forms—and firmly to show by word and by deed that riots, looting, and public disorder will just not be tolerated.

In particular, I call upon the people of the ravaged areas to return to their homes, to leave the streets, and to permit the authorities to restore quiet and order without further loss of life or property damage. Once this is done, attention can immediately be turned to the great and urgent problems of repairing the damage that has been done.

I appeal to every American in this grave hour to respond to this plea.

NOTE: The President spoke at 11:58 p.m. in the Theater at the White House for broadcast on radio and television. During his remarks he referred to, among others, Lt. Gen. John L. Throckmorton

who commanded the Federal troops in Detroit. He also referred to Proclamation 3795 and Executive Order 11364 providing for the restoration of law and order in the State of Michigan (3 Weekly Comp. Pres. Docs., p. 1050; 32 F.R. 10905, 10907; 3 CFR, 1967 Comp., pp. 68, 309).

See also Items 321, 325, 331.

323 Remarks to the Delegates to Boys Nation.

July 26, 1967

GOOD MORNING, I am glad that you could come over and visit with us. And I am happy to welcome you to the Capital and to the White House.

I want to commend the American Legion for giving you young Americans a chance to learn at firsthand about your Government.

I want to speak to you today because you are young and because you have lives to live. Many of you may be looking forward to careers in business.

I would like you to consider an investment. I would ask you, after you have completed your education, to give careful consideration to the investment of a few years of your lives in the business of government, in the work of public service, in the cause of America.

Our country needs men and women who are young—and young enough to dream of remaking America—as some of us did here in this Capital when I came here more than 30 years ago.

We need young people who are confident in themselves and in their ability to meet the challenges that face us today. We need young people who care—and who are willing to work for something that's more than just a paycheck—for profits measured in human happiness and satisfaction gained from helping people to achieve human health and human dignity.

So, I ask that you consider applying yourselves, your industry, your brains, your

talent, and your imagination to the problems of the land in which you live.

Emerson once said: "What is man born for but to be a reformer; a remaker of what man has made; a restorer of truth and good."

Well, that is your birthright—to be reformers.

America has always been a nation of reformers. And we have always been a people who knew and who accepted the responsibilities that that role demands.

To be a reformer is to be responsible.

It is to be a remaker—not a wrecker—of what man has made.

It is to be a restorer—not a destroyer—of truth and good.

It is, beyond all else, to respect the laws of society—to rebuild society by changing laws, yes, by improving laws, yes, by using the laws—lest we accidentally or willfully weaken the foundations of law and bring all that we have achieved crashing down upon our heads.

We have been through great trials in the history of this Nation. We have faced problems and challenges before. And in one of our gravest hours, one of our greatest Presidents left us the first commandment for a civilized society.

So here today, on the White House lawn, I should like to remind each of you—and for that matter, every American—of Abraham Lincoln's words:

"Let every American, every lover of

liberty, every well wisher to his posterity . . . never to violate in the least particular, the laws of the country . . . let every man remember that to violate the law, is to trample on the blood of his father, and to tear the character of his own, and his children's liberty. Let reverence for the laws, be breathed by every American . . . let it be taught in schools, in seminaries, and in colleges;—let it be written in Primmers, spelling books, and in Almanacs;—let it be preached from the pulpit, proclaimed in legislative halls, and enforced in courts of justice. And, in short, let it become the *political religion* of the nation; and let the old and the young, the rich and the poor, the grave and the gay, of all sexes and tongues, and colors and conditions, sacrifice unceasingly upon its altars.”

So, your role can be not only to respect the law, but to make it a living thing, make it more just, make it more effective.

We have our job cut out for us. It is ahead of us. We have cities to rebuild. We have economy to maintain. We have children to teach. We have old people to care for. We have young people to find jobs for. We have human rights to protect and to enlarge. We have land to conserve and air and water to clean, and a whole world to guard, and liberty and freedom to preserve.

Who will do these things? Who can we

look to to get this job done in the years ahead? You—and young men like you—your brothers, even those who today may feel that they do not have a very big stake in our society. Even though sometimes you may feel you have no role to play in making it more just, the challenge is there waiting for you.

I am depending upon you.

You may choose to work in the great world of Washington. You may elect to be leaders in your own communities back home. But the arena of action is not so important. The decision is. The need for leadership—for commitment and responsibility—is upon us. That need is the same in every State in this land. And it will always be so. It will always be your challenge, your opportunity, your responsibility, if you will only face up to and use it. I express the hope that you will rise to it—and I furthermore hope that America will rise with you.

We hope very much that you are inspired by the things you see and that you are improved by the things you learn. We will do what we can to make you enjoy your visit. We thank you for having come here this morning.

NOTE: The President spoke at 11:40 a.m. in the Rose Garden at the White House before a gathering of 99 delegates to Boys Nation, a group sponsored by the American Legion.

324 Remarks at the Department of Defense Cost Reduction Ceremony. July 27, 1967

Secretary McNamara, General Wheeler, Members of the Cabinet, Members of the Congress, distinguished award winners, my friends, ladies and gentlemen:

This ceremony here today honors the supreme importance of the individual's contribution to society.

In 1961, Secretary McNamara pioneered a massive effort in cost reduction in the Government. He set up a 5-year program.

He knew that you cannot cut costs in the budget office—if you don't begin at the workbench. So he enlisted the ingenuity and the initiative of the men and women who

work throughout our entire extended defense network around the world.

That program was so successful that when I became President, I asked Secretary McNamara to make it a permanent one.

He set out to save \$872 million as his target in fiscal year 1967.

And you men and women of the Defense Department have responded.

Tough-minded decisions have been taken. The savings were not \$872 million—but gladly in excess of that, \$914 million.

What is more, these same actions will save another \$590 million over the next 2 years.

This year alone, the Department of Defense has taken actions which will save the American taxpayer, ultimately, more than a billion and a half dollars.

At my direction, all of the Departments and agencies of the United States Government have launched similar programs. We are determined to bring the cost of government down to the lowest possible level.

I think all of you should take a great deal of pride to know that it was all started in your Department—in the Department with the biggest share of the United States budget.

We all know that it is quite difficult to reduce defense costs during times of peace.

But it is much more difficult to cut those costs when our American men are in battle.

The Defense Department's mission is not to save money. Its mission is peace. Its mission is to safeguard our security. Its mission is to protect our freedoms. We just can't put a price tag on that.

And let no one mistake this Nation's solemn pledge that we have made to our fighting men. They will have every dollar they need to carry out their mission in the defense of our freedom.

As long as I am your President, no one is ever going to measure our soldiers' strength with a bankbook—or limit our soldiers'

logistical support by a ledger.

But the fact is that this Department has proved my conviction that we can have combat readiness, good business management and economy in our defense.

This has been proved, because the men and women who are here today—and thousands of others like them—have taken this challenge as their own.

Here is a steel ventilation plate that is used on certain packing containers. These have cost the taxpayer a dollar apiece.

But steel plates rust and corrode. And so Ralph Pizzello—a packing expert—took a hard look at it. He decided that there must be a better way to make this plate—to do this job.

So he designed a plastic plate to replace that steel plate. It doesn't rust and it doesn't corrode—and it doesn't cost the taxpayer a dollar either. It costs the taxpayer one-tenth of that—just 10 cents. So this little item represents a 90 percent gain in efficiency and in economy.

This is only one very vivid and practical example out of many. We think all of them are creative improvements and reductions in the cost of protecting our freedom.

I am very, very proud of those accomplishments.

They represent the true genius of this Nation—they represent the determination of the individual to use his own God-given talents and all of his resources for the benefit of all of our people.

It gives me a great deal of pleasure to welcome you here to the East Room today and to personally acknowledge and reward and thank you for this leadership—and this substantial contribution to your country.

NOTE: The President spoke at 1:05 p.m. in the East Room at the White House, at a ceremony honoring 11 individuals whose achievements contributed significantly to the Department of Defense cost reduction program in fiscal year 1967. In his open-

ing words he referred to Robert S. McNamara, Secretary of Defense, and Gen. Earle G. Wheeler, Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff.

At the ceremony Certificates of Merit were awarded to the following persons: Technical Sgt. Francis D. Moore, instrument technician, 10th Armament and Electronics Maintenance Squadron, RAF Alconbury, England; Ralph J. Pizzello, woodworker foreman, Supply Division, Tooele Army Depot, Utah; John A. Johnson, supervisory industrial engineer, Industrial Engineering Division, U.S. Naval Ammunition Depot, Crane, Ind.; Oscar Peay, general technologist, Directorate of Medical Materiel Technical Operations Division, Defense Personnel Support Center, Defense Supply Agency, Philadelphia, Pa.; Leonard V. Mares, aerospace engineer, Service Engineering Division, Directorate for Materiel Management, McClellan Air Force Base, Calif.; Mrs. Yeadis M. Isgar, procurement

agent, Purchase Division, Buying Branch, Navy Electronics Supply Office, Great Lakes, Ill.; Carlo J. Leto, equipment specialist (auto), Maintenance Directorate, U.S. Army Tank-Automotive Command, Warren, Mich.; Spencer K. Albin, aerospace engineer, Engineering Division, Directorate of Materiel Management, Oklahoma City Air Materiel Area, Tinker Air Force Base, Okla.; Jack Doyle, chief quartermaster, Production Branch, Production and Storage Division, Ordnance Department, U.S. Naval Ammunition Depot, McAlester, Okla.; Lt. Fred M. Lewis, project officer, Ammo-Missile Branch, Stock Management Division, Supply Department, Headquarters, United States Marine Corps, Washington, D.C.; and Ransome G. Holland, mechanical engineer, Production and Engineering Division, Operations Support Division, Directorate of Procurement and Production, Oklahoma Air Materiel Area, Tinker Air Force Base, Okla.

325 Telegram to Governor Romney and Mayor Cavanagh in Reply to Their Request for Disaster Relief Assistance in Detroit. *July 27, 1967*

IN REPLY TO your telegram, after conferring with the appropriate members of the Cabinet, I have directed them to help meet the emergency health, food and safety needs of the citizens of Detroit that cannot be met by state and local resources. To that end I have asked Mr. Vance and Mr. Christopher to confer with you immediately to determine what those needs are and to report promptly.

I have also instructed the officials concerned to move without delay to meet the needs of those who have suffered at the hands of rioters, as soon as those needs can be determined. The decision to move food into Detroit for those in need was made yesterday. I have directed the release of drugs and hospital equipment for emergency use and they are available upon the request of your health authorities.

LYNDON B. JOHNSON

NOTE: The telegram was read by George E. Christian, Special Assistant to the President, at his news conference at 4:10 p.m. on Thursday, July 27, in the Fish Room at the White House. It was not

made public in the form of a White House press release. Mr. Christian announced that identical telegrams had been sent to Governor Romney and Mayor Cavanagh. In the telegram the President referred to Cyrus R. Vance, Special Assistant to the Secretary of Defense, and Warren Christopher, Deputy Attorney General.

The text of the telegram to the President from Governor Romney and Mayor Cavanagh was posted earlier on the bulletin board in the Press Room at the White House, as follows:

The catastrophe which has struck the City of Detroit is a "disaster" by any reasonable definition of that term. Entire blocks have been leveled by fire and pockets of destruction exist throughout the city. Losses due to fire and looting have been estimated at hundreds of millions of dollars and these estimates may very well prove to be conservative. However, we have been advised by Governor Farris Bryant and Deputy United States Attorney General Christopher that the provisions of the Federal Disaster Assistance Act have not in the past been applied to disasters other than those resulting from natural causes. Last week part of the Detroit metropolitan area was declared a disaster area following a five-inch rainfall. It simply does not make sense not to commit Federal assistance to the City of Detroit in view of what has happened there in recent days. We urgently request that this policy be reevaluated, in view of the fact that the statute covers natural disasters, "or other catastrophe which in the deter-

mination of the President" warrants special Federal assistance and that such assistance be approved for the City of Detroit.

GOVERNOR GEORGE ROMNEY
JEROME P. CAVANAGH, Mayor

On July 29, 1967, the White House released a statement by Cyrus R. Vance, Special Assistant to the Secretary of Defense, made at a press briefing following his report to the President that day. Mr. Vance said that order had been virtually restored in

Detroit and that the people of the city, with Federal help, would "return the city to normal." He added that the President had directed the Administrator of the Small Business Administration to declare the riot-torn sections of the city a disaster area so that low interest Federal loans could be made available to homeowners and businessmen. The text of the statement is printed in the Weekly Compilation of Presidential Documents (vol. 3, p. 1070).

See also Items 321, 322, 331.

326 The President's Address to the Nation on Civil Disorders. July 27, 1967

My fellow Americans:

We have endured a week such as no nation should live through: a time of violence and tragedy.

For a few minutes tonight, I want to talk about that tragedy—and I want to talk about the deeper questions it raises for us all.

I am tonight appointing a special Advisory Commission on Civil Disorders.

Governor Otto Kerner of Illinois has agreed to serve as Chairman. Mayor John Lindsay of New York will serve as Vice Chairman. Its other members will include Fred R. Harris, Senator from Oklahoma; Edward W. Brooke, United States Senator from Massachusetts; James C. Corman, U.S. Representative from California, 22d District, Los Angeles; William M. McCulloch, the U.S. Representative from the State of Ohio, the 4th District; I. W. Abel, the president of the United Steel Workers; Charles B. Thornton, the president, director, and chairman of the board of Litton Industries, Inc.; Roy Wilkins, the executive director of the NAACP; Katherine Graham Peden, the Commissioner of Commerce of the State of Kentucky; Herbert Jenkins, the chief of police, Atlanta, Georgia.

The Commission will investigate the origins of the recent disorders in our cities. It will make recommendations—to me, to

the Congress, to the State Governors, and to the mayors—for measures to prevent or contain such disasters in the future.

In their work, the Commission members will have access to the facts that are gathered by Director Edgar Hoover and the Federal Bureau of Investigation. The FBI will continue to exercise its full authority to investigate these riots, in accordance with my standing instructions, and continue to search for evidence of conspiracy.

But even before the Commission begins its work, and even before all the evidence is in, there are some things that we can tell about the outbreaks of this summer.

First—let there be no mistake about it—the looting, arson, plunder, and pillage which have occurred are not part of the civil rights protest. There is no American right to loot stores, or to burn buildings, or to fire rifles from the rooftops. That is crime—and crime must be dealt with forcefully, and swiftly, and certainly—under law.

Innocent people, Negro and white, have been killed. Damage to property—owned by Negroes and whites—is calamitous. Worst of all, fear and bitterness which have been loosed will take long months to erase.

The criminals who committed these acts of violence against the people deserve to be punished—and they must be punished. Ex-

planations may be offered, but nothing can excuse what they have done.

There will be attempts to interpret the events of the past few days. But when violence strikes, then those in public responsibility have an immediate and a very different job: not to analyze, but to end disorder.

That they must seek to do with every means at their command: through local police, State officials, and—in extraordinary circumstances where local authorities have stated that they cannot maintain order with their own resources—then through Federal power that we have limited authority to use.

I have directed the Secretary of Defense to issue new training standards for riot control procedures immediately to National Guard units across the country. Through the Continental Army Command, this expanded training will begin immediately. The National Guard must have the ability to respond effectively, quickly, and appropriately, in conditions of disorder and violence.

Those charged with the responsibility of law enforcement should, and must, be respected by all of our people. The violence must be stopped, quickly, finally, and permanently.

It would compound the tragedy, however, if we should settle for order that is imposed by the muzzle of a gun.

In America, we seek more than the uneasy calm of martial law. We seek peace that is based on one man's respect for another man—and upon mutual respect for law. We seek a public order that is built on steady progress in meeting the needs of all of our people.

Not even the sternest police action, nor the most effective Federal troops, can ever create lasting peace in our cities.

The only genuine, long-range solution for what has happened lies in an attack—

mounted at every level—upon the conditions that breed despair and violence. All of us know what those conditions are: ignorance, discrimination, slums, poverty, disease, not enough jobs. We should attack these conditions—not because we are frightened by conflict, but because we are fired by conscience. We should attack them because there is simply no other way to achieve a decent and orderly society in America.

In the past 3½ years, we have directed the greatest governmental effort in all of our American history at these ancient enemies. The rollcall of those laws reveals the depth of our concern: the Model Cities Act, the Voters Rights Act, the Civil Rights Acts, the Rent Supplement Act, Medicare and Medicaid, the 24 educational bills, Head Start, the Job Corps, the Neighborhood Youth Corps, the Teacher Corps, manpower development and training. And many, many more acts too numerous to mention on television tonight.

We will continue to press for laws which would protect our citizens from violence, like the Safe Streets and Crime Control Act now under consideration in the Congress, and the Gun Control Act.

Our work has just begun. Yet there are those who feel that even this beginning is too much. There are those who would have us turn back even now, at the beginning of this journey.

Last week in Congress, a small but important plan for action in the cities was voted down in the House of Representatives. The Members of that body rejected my request for \$20 million to fight the pestilence of rats—rats which prowl in dark alleys and tenements, and attack thousands of city children. The passage of this legislation would have meant much to the children of the slums. A strong Government that has spent millions to protect baby calves from worms could surely afford to show as much concern for

baby boys and girls.

There are some tonight who feel that we cannot afford a model cities program. They reduced my request for funds this year by two-thirds.

There are some who feel that we cannot afford additional good teachers for the children of poverty in urban areas. Or new efforts to house those who are most in need of housing. Or to aid in education to those who need to read and write.

Theirs is a strange system of bookkeeping.

I believe we should be counting the assets that these measures can bring to America: cities richer in opportunity; cities more full of promise; cities of order, progress, and happiness. Instead, some are counting the seeds of bitterness.

This is not a time for angry reaction. It is a time for action: starting with legislative action to improve the life in our cities. The strength and promise of the law are the surest remedies for tragedy in the streets.

But laws are only one answer. Another answer lies in the way our people will respond to these disturbances.

There is a danger that the worst toll of this tragedy will be counted in the hearts of Americans: in hatred, in insecurity, in fear, in heated words which will not end the conflict, but prolong it.

So let us acknowledge the tragedy; but let us not exaggerate it.

Let us look about tonight. Let us look at ourselves. We will see these things:

- Most Americans, Negro and white, are leading decent, responsible, and productive lives.
- Most Americans, Negro and white, seek safety in their neighborhoods and harmony with their neighbors.
- Nothing can destroy good will more than a period of needless strife and suspicion between the races.

Let us condemn the violent few. But let us remember that it is law-abiding Negro families who have really suffered most at the hands of the rioters. It is responsible Negro citizens who hope most fervently—and need most urgently—to share in America's growth and prosperity.

This is no time to turn away from that goal.

To reach it will require more than laws, and much more than dollars. It will take renewed dedication and understanding in the heart of every citizen.

I know there are millions of men and women tonight who are eager to heal the wounds that we have suffered; who want to get on with the job of teaching and working and building America.

In that spirit, at the conclusion of this address, I will sign a proclamation tonight calling for a day of prayer in our Nation throughout all of our States. On this Sunday, July 30, I urge the citizens in every town, every city, and every home in this land to go into their churches—to pray for order and reconciliation among men.

I appeal to every Governor, every mayor, every preacher, and every teacher, and parent to join and give leadership in this national observance.

This spirit of dedication cannot be limited to our public leaders. It must extend to every citizen in this land. And the man who speaks to break the peace must feel the powerful disapproval of all of his neighbors.

So tonight, I call upon every American to search his own heart.

And to those who are tempted by violence, I would say this: Think again. Who is really the loser when violence comes? Whose neighborhood is made a shambles? Whose life is threatened most?

If you choose to tear down what other hands have built,

- You will not succeed;
- You will suffer most from your own crimes;
- You will learn that there are no victors in the aftermath of violence.

The apostles of violence, with their ugly drumbeat of hatred, must know that they are now heading for ruin and disaster. And every man who really wants progress or justice or equality must stand against them and their miserable virus of hate.

For other Americans, especially those in positions of public trust, I have this message:

Yours is the duty to bring about a peaceful change in America. If your response to these tragic events is only "business as usual"—you invite not only disaster, but dishonor.

So, my fellow citizens, let us go about our work. Let us clear the streets of rubble and quench the fires that hatred set. Let us feed and care for those who have suffered at the rioters' hands—but let there be no bonus or reward or salutes for those who have inflicted that suffering.

Let us resolve that this violence is going

to stop and there will be no bonus to flow from it. We can stop it. We must stop it. We will stop it.

And let us build something much more lasting: faith between man and man, faith between race and race. Faith in each other—and faith in the promise of beautiful America.

Let us pray for the day when "mercy and truth are met together: righteousness and peace have kissed each other." Let us pray—and let us work for better jobs and better housing and better education that so many millions of our own fellow Americans need so much tonight.

Let us then act in the Congress, in the city halls, and in every community, so that this great land of ours may truly be "one nation under God—with liberty and justice for all."

Good night and thank you.

NOTE: The President spoke at 10:30 p.m. in his office at the White House. His remarks were broadcast live on radio and television.

On the same day the President signed Proclamation 3796 "National Day of Prayer for Reconciliation" (3 Weekly Comp. Pres. Docs., p. 1059; 32 F.R. 11071; 3 CFR, 1967 Comp., p. 68).

See also Item 327.

327 Remarks Upon Signing Order Establishing the National Advisory Commission on Civil Disorders. *July 29, 1967*

THIS MORNING I have welcomed the members of the Commission on Civil Disorders to the White House for its first meeting. The Commission is chaired by Governor Kerner of Illinois. The Vice Chairman is Mayor Lindsay of New York. They are both here with me.

I have commended these 11 citizens for what they have agreed to do for this Nation. They are undertaking a responsibility as great as any in our society.

The civil peace has been shattered in a number of cities. The American people are deeply disturbed. They are baffled and dismayed by the wholesale looting and violence that has occurred both in small towns and in great metropolitan centers.

No society can tolerate massive violence, any more than a body can tolerate massive disease. And we in America shall not tolerate it.

But just saying that does not solve the

problem. We need to know the answers, I think, to three basic questions about these riots:

- What happened?
- Why did it happen?
- What can be done to prevent it from happening again and again?

Beyond these basic questions there are others—the answers to which can help our Governors and our mayors, our chiefs of police, and our citizens all over the country to cope with their immediate and their long-range problems of maintaining order:

- Why riots occur in some cities and do not occur in others?
- Why one man breaks the law, while another, living in the same circumstances, does not?
- To what extent, if any, there has been planning and organization in any of the riots?
- Why have some riots been contained before they got out of hand and others have not?
- How well equipped and trained are the local and State police, and the State guard units, to handle riots?
- How do police-community relationships affect the likelihood of a riot—or the ability to keep one from spreading once it has started?
- Who took part in the riots? What about their age, their level of education, their job history, their origins, and their roots in the community?
- Who suffered most at the hands of the rioters?
- What can be done to help innocent people and vital institutions escape serious injury?
- How can groups of lawful citizens be encouraged, groups that can help to cool the situation?

- What is the relative impact of the depressed conditions in the ghetto—joblessness, family instability, poor education, lack of motivation, poor health care—in stimulating people to riot?
- What Federal, State, and local programs have been most helpful in relieving those depressed conditions?
- What is the proper public role in helping cities repair the damage that has been done?
- What effect do the mass media have on the riots?

What we are really asking for is a profile of the riots—of the rioters, of their environment, of their victims, of their causes and effects.

We are asking for advice on:

- short-term measures that can prevent riots,
- better measures to contain riots once they begin, and
- long-term measures that will make them only a sordid page in our history.

I know this is a tall order.

One thing should be absolutely clear: This matter is far, far too important for politics. It goes to the health and safety of all American citizens—Republicans and Democrats. It goes to the proper responsibilities of officials in both of our parties. It goes to the heart of our society in a time of swift change and of great stress. I think the composition of this Commission is proof against any narrowness or partisanship.

You will have all the support and cooperation you need from the Federal Government, as the Chairman and the Vice Chairman lead this Commission in this study.

Sometimes various administrations have set up commissions that were expected to put the stamp of approval on what the administration believed.

This is not such a commission. We are looking to you, not to approve our own notions, but to guide us and to guide the country through a thicket of tension, conflicting evidence, and extreme opinions.

So, Mr. Chairman and Mr. Vice Chairman, let your search be free. Let it be untrammelled by what has been called the "conventional wisdom." As best you can, find the truth, the whole truth, and express it in your report.

I hope you will be inspired by a sense of urgency, but also conscious of the danger that lies always in hasty conclusions.

The work that you do ought to help guide us not just this summer, but for many summers to come and for many years to come.

Thank you.

NOTE: The President spoke at 1:18 p.m. in the Fish Room at the White House upon signing Executive Order 11365 "Establishing a National Advisory Commission on Civil Disorders" (3 Weekly Comp. Pres. Docs., p. 1069; 32 F.R. 11111; 3 CFR, 1967 Comp., p. 310).

On July 28, 1967, the White House released the text of the President's telegram to the members of the Commission informing them that the first meeting would be held in the Cabinet Room at 11:30 a.m. on July 29 (3 Weekly Comp. Pres. Docs., p. 1060).

A detailed statement on the Commission's report appears in the President's news conference of March 25, 1968 (see 1968 volume this series; also printed at 4 Weekly Comp. Pres. Docs., p. 561).

The "Report of the National Advisory Commission on Civil Disorders" is dated March 1, 1968 (Government Printing Office, 425 pp.).

See also Item 326.

328 The President's News Conference of

July 31, 1967

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, NATIONAL ADVISORY
COMMISSION ON CIVIL DISORDERS

THE PRESIDENT. [1.] Yesterday I talked to Mr. David Ginsburg in Seattle and asked him to become the Executive Director of the group that met with me Saturday—the group that is headed by Governor Kerner.¹ He agreed to return and accept that assignment. I will be seeing him later in the day.

As you know, Mr. Ginsburg is in the private practice of law here in Washington. George² will give you a biographical sketch concerning his governmental experience.

¹ See Items 326, 327.

² George E. Christian, Special Assistant to the President.

That is all I have to say. I will be glad to answer any questions.

QUESTIONS

GOVERNOR ROMNEY'S CRITICISM

[2.] Q. Mr. President, Governor Romney over the weekend was increasingly critical of the administration for the manner of sending troops into Detroit. The Governor also said that he thought that the riots in Detroit resulted from national conditions rather than local conditions.³

What are your thoughts on it?

³ See Items 321, 322, 325.

THE PRESIDENT. The group we have asked to study this will take into consideration the requests I made of them the other day. They will be able to shed light on all of the things that entered into the problems in Detroit.

Basically, so far as I am concerned, I do not have knowledge as to the whys, wherefores, and causes.

I was asked to make two basic decisions: The first, under the Constitution and laws, was to act upon the recommendation for troops. I did that at about 11 o'clock Monday morning.

Later, when Mr. Vance and other Federal, State, and local authorities unanimously recommended deployment, I immediately signed the proclamation and the Executive order.

I don't think anything is to be gained by trying to justify or explain.

GALLUP POLL ON VIETNAM POLICY

[3.] Q. Mr. President, the Gallup poll released today indicated that 52 percent of the public does not agree with you in Vietnam.

Do you think that accurately reflects public opinion?

THE PRESIDENT. I don't know.

U THANT'S STATEMENT ON VIETNAM

[4.] Q. Mr. President, Secretary General U Thant made a speech yesterday in which he put forth the claim that the war in Vietnam is due to the desire of the Vietnamese people to have the same kind of freedom that we fought for in 1776. Could you explore for us your feelings?

THE PRESIDENT. I do not agree with him, but I don't care to argue with a representative of the United Nations on his desire to give his viewpoint to our people.

FEDERAL RIOT FORCE SUGGESTION

[5.] Q. Mr. President, do you see any merit in the suggestion by Mayor Cavanagh for a 1,000-man Federal riot force?

THE PRESIDENT. I would see a good many problems connected with it. I haven't received his suggestions. All I know is what I saw in the paper. I will be glad to have them evaluated and considered by the executive and legislative branches, but I would not care to embrace that recommendation with the information that I have now.

DEMOCRATIC CRITICISM

[6.] Q. Mr. President, 51 former Democratic National Convention delegates are said to be urging you to retire for the good of the party and their criticism seems to be mainly on foreign policy. What is your comment on that?

THE PRESIDENT. None.

EFFECT OF RIOTS ON LEGISLATION

[7.] Q. Mr. President, the outbreak of riots, do you think this might have a plus effect in Congress in changing its minds on measures you have asked for? I have in mind rat control and things like that?

THE PRESIDENT. I think that the Congress has carefully evaluated the situation in the Nation as it sees it. I think all of us should be concerned with the developments that are

taking place in the cities.

What their reaction will be on any specific piece of legislation, I would think the leadership would have better information about that than I have. None of them has talked to me about it since Newark and Detroit from the standpoint of whether there might be a change of opinion in the Congress or not.

So, very frankly, I just don't know what their reaction would be.

TAX INCREASE

[8.] Q. Mr. President, should we still expect a tax increase request and can you give us some idea of the thinking as to when and how much?

THE PRESIDENT. No. As soon as the decision is made on that you will be informed. I think you know that we have a recommendation pending, a 6 percent surcharge recommendation.

As I said at my last press meeting, we have had various people in the administration studying the receipts and expenditures, the action taken on appropriations in the Congress, and that we believe that we should have a tax measure this year.

There will be some adjustments made to our recommendation, but as of the moment, I am not in a position to actively spell those out.

Q. Will they be upward adjustments, Mr. President?

THE PRESIDENT. I say at the moment I am not in a position to actively spell them out. As soon as we reach a decision, we will communicate it to you. I do not want to speculate in a field like that until the recommendations are in from all the people involved.

TAYLOR-CLIFFORD MISSION

[9.] Q. Mr. President, what do you hear from General Taylor and Mr. Clifford about support for the war among our allies, and other matters? ⁴

THE PRESIDENT. I think they have had very good meetings where they have been. The last I heard from them was following their meeting with Prime Minister Holt and his Cabinet. I read a report earlier this morning that they had spent several hours—I think 7 hours—and that they generally agreed that this meeting was very helpful to both sides.

SELECTION OF THE ADVISORY COMMISSION ON CIVIL DISORDERS

[10.] Q. Mr. President, did you consider putting any of the advocates of black power on your advisory Commission? Can you tell us why there are no representatives of the more militant Negro point of view on the Commission?

THE PRESIDENT. The President selected the people in the country that he thought could make a study of this matter and make recommendations to him that he thought would encompass the entire problem.

We tried to select men and women of experience, ability, and judgment whom we felt could consider all the evidence and make a judicious finding.

We did not consider them from the standpoint of militancy or antimilitancy.

We considered them from the standpoint

⁴ A news briefing following their trip to the Far East was held by Clark Clifford and Gen. Maxwell D. Taylor on August 5, 1967, at 4 p.m. in the Fish Room at the White House. It is printed in the *Weekly Compilation of Presidential Documents* (vol. 3, p. 1114).

of their experience and the people from whom the President would want a recommendation.

I am sure that every person in the Nation who has a viewpoint he wants considered will have a chance to present it in writing or orally, or make any recommendations he cares to make. We will be glad to have them.

We appointed the people who we think will be best on the Commission. I did that without regard to any label.

EFFECT OF GALLUP POLL ON VIETNAM POLICY

[11.] Q. Mr. President, does the fact that the Gallup poll reports increasing opposition to our troop commitments in Vietnam suggest any change in your course of action?

THE PRESIDENT. No. We do not base our actions on the Gallup poll.

PHILIPPINE POSITION AND THE TAYLOR-CLIFFORD MISSION

[12.] Q. Mr. President, does the fact that Mr. Clifford and General Taylor are not going to Manila come as a surprise or was this known—President Marcos' position on further troops known—before they went off on their mission? Can you explore that?

THE PRESIDENT. No, it did not come as a surprise. I am not familiar with the President's position on further troops.

PRESIDENT TITO

[13.] Q. Mr. President, it was reported on Saturday that Marshal Tito received a personal message from you, sir. I wonder if you would say anything about that.

THE PRESIDENT. Yes. We are in com-

munication from time to time with the leaders of other nations. We have communicated with President Tito on occasion.

EFFECT OF RIOTS ON VIETNAM AND SPACE SPENDING

[14.] Q. Mr. President, Mayor Cavanagh on "Meet the Press" also said that he felt that we were trying to pacify the villages of Vietnam while we should be pacifying American cities and that we were going to send a man to the moon by 1970 when he couldn't walk down Woodward Avenue in Detroit.

I was wondering if there was any possibility that you are considering cuts in either Vietnam spending or space spending to increase this flow of funds to the cities.

THE PRESIDENT. We have submitted our recommendations to the Congress in both of those fields. They are now in the process of debating them. I do not know what action they will take.

We will review the appropriations as soon as Congress has acted and make any decisions that we think are indicated by the requirements of the national interest.

AIRPORT REPORT

[15.] Q. Mr. President, you had a task force on airports which I think reported to you a couple of months ago. I wonder whether you could say whether you have plans to release the contents of that report and what the administration's plans are for a new national airport plan.⁵

⁵ A report to the President on aircraft noise and compatible land use near airports is printed in the Weekly Compilation of Presidential Documents (vol. 3, p. 527).

THE PRESIDENT. I do not have any comment on that now.

TAYLOR-CLIFFORD MISSION REPORT TO
PRESIDENT

[16.] Q. Can you tell us when you plan to meet with General Taylor and Mr. Clifford?

THE PRESIDENT. Shortly after they come back, when it is convenient for them.

SENATOR MORTON'S PROPOSAL ON
URBAN PROGRAM FUNDS

[17.] Q. Mr. President, what do you think about Senator Morton's proposals for giving you the power of transferability to take 10 percent of the long-range urban spending programs and apply it immediately to the problems of the cities, the cities that have the most urgent problem this summer? He estimates that will give you an antiriot war chest of up to \$1 billion.

THE PRESIDENT. We have members of the Cabinet concerned with urban problems constantly evaluating the requests of the cities and trying to act upon those requests within the means they have available promptly. If there is any way that we can improve the administration and the expedition of the programs we have, I am sure the Cabinet officers concerned are anxious to do it.

I know they have been trying to minimize the time involved in every application on every program to every possible extent, consistent with sound administration.

I have been meeting with groups of them from time to time in that connection. I do not believe that the bulking together of the programs is either a problem or a requirement.

I do think that it would be helpful if

some of the dozen or so programs that are pending could have the approval of the Congress. I have enumerated those programs before.

We have a number of programs for the cities which are now being applied. But we also have some that we would like very much to have fully funded, such as rent supplements, model cities, the rat measure, the poverty bill, and a good many others.

SUMMIT MEETING OF ALLIES

[18.] Q. Mr. President, is there now some doubt that a summit meeting will be held?

The summit meeting of the seven allies. Is there now some doubt? Mr. Clifford said on the wires, I believe it was Saturday, that the decision had not been made, which seemed to differ from what we had been told, that a decision had been made, but the date and place had not been set.

THE PRESIDENT. I have not seen Mr. Clifford's comment. I would like to see it before I comment on what he has said.

I think it is reasonable to assume that we will be meeting with the leaders of South Vietnam and the other allies from time to time, but we have no place and time now.

EXECUTIVE ACTION TO PREVENT RIOTS

[19.] Q. Mr. President, back to the summer riots: What can you do or what can the executive branch do, administratively, without legislation, to head off these riots?

I am asking this: Is there anything preventive that you can do?

THE PRESIDENT. Yes. I think that we can and have done some of those things. We asked Congress for \$75 million for summer employment for unemployed young people.

They granted that fund. But we have allocated it.

I think that is one thing that is helpful.

I think that the work with the various mayors and appealing through private employers and to public officials to show deep concern for the needs of the unemployed in these areas is absolutely essential.

We must never let up on that. I think the attempt to provide the encouragement and leadership with the recreation people, the school authorities, the civic leaders is a matter that is receiving all-out support from the administration.

The prompt action upon the requests from the mayors on various programs that we have, from the standpoint of food stamps, from the standpoint of housing, from the standpoint of general urban problems, including poverty and employment, is indispensable and absolutely necessary.

We try to stay on top of that.

We have a group in the Justice Department under Mr. Roger Wilkins, with Community Relations, and Mr. John Doar, the Assistant Attorney General, who counseled with certain minority groups to try to be helpful, who frankly said Washington is not nearly as close to these problems as the local people are, or as the State people are. But we are very concerned with them and very anxious to cooperate with all governmental units in any way we can that would be helpful.

Those are some of the areas in which we are working with them.

DISASTER RELIEF FOR DETROIT

[20.] Q. Mr. President, what is the status of the appeal by Detroit for disaster relief? Can the Government grant that?

THE PRESIDENT. We have received several

suggestions from the mayor and from the Governor. Mr. Vance is acting upon those. I believe he had a press conference earlier this morning in which he presented the Administrator of the Small Business Administration for the Detroit area, who is opening offices there this morning pursuant to the declaration of a disaster area made in connection with the small business loans last Saturday.

The other agencies, food and health and employment and others, are already busy and have been for several days working with the local authorities.

In connection with the disaster declaration handled by Governor Bryant's office, that concerns itself a great deal with public building damage. There are several types of disaster declarations.

Governor Bryant is concerned with the damage to public facilities. The small business disaster declaration has to do with loans and assistance of that kind.

The other departments, while they do not call it disaster, in an emergency situation move as they have with food and so forth.

Mr. Vance is having presented to him by the local authorities the justifications for each of these areas. He will consider them, make recommendations and submit them to the appropriate departments.

The most necessary ones have already been processed and I am sure there will be others.

TIMING OF TAX PROPOSAL

[21.] Q. Mr. President, in discussing the tax outlook, you mentioned the waiting for Congress to act on appropriations bills. Were you indicating that a tax increase proposal might not go up to Congress until the appropriations bills are completed?

THE PRESIDENT. No.

POSSIBILITY OF DETROIT OR NEWARK VISITS

[22.] Q. Mr. President, do you have any intention of visiting Detroit or Newark in the coming days or weeks?

THE PRESIDENT. I have no plans to go at this time.

NATIONAL SPENDING PRIORITIES

[23.] Q. Mr. President, whenever we have a national crisis, such as we have had in the last couple of weeks, there seems to be an outcry that we rethink our national priorities and perhaps spend less in Southeast Asia and more on the homefront. Do you think this country can sustain both viewpoints?

THE PRESIDENT. Yes.

Q. Can you give us your thinking on this?

THE PRESIDENT. I have given it a good many times. Our gross national product is big enough. I think we are rich enough. I think it is important enough for us to meet our responsibilities at home without neglecting our responsibilities in the world.

I would hope that not many people would feel that because we have a problem at home is any indication that we would ignore or surrender our interests abroad.

Q. Mr. President, I would like to ask the question in an absolutely different way. If your new Commission should come up with some recommendations which would cost substantially more than you have now asked Congress for in the way of appropriations for the cities and so forth, would the country, in your judgment, presently be able to finance them?

THE PRESIDENT. I have no doubt for a moment but that our country will be able to do whatever is necessary to do.

If we had the same tax rates applied this year to our income as we had when I be-

came President about 3½ years ago, we would be receiving in the Treasury some \$23 billion more than we will receive.

NUCLEAR NONPROLIFERATION TREATY

[24.] Q. Mr. President, can you bring us up to date on the status of the nuclear non-proliferation treaty?

THE PRESIDENT. No. I think that we have made progress. We are optimistic, but we are not ready to announce that an agreement has been reached and that the matter has been concluded.

ANTI-BALLISTIC MISSILE DISCUSSIONS

[25.] Q. Mr. President, what about ABM?

Have discussions started on that yet?

THE PRESIDENT. No. There is not anything to add to what Secretary Rusk said yesterday on the "Face the Nation" program.

We have indicated a desire to exchange viewpoints with the Soviet Union on this subject.

We think that it is very vital, as is the whole disarmament subject.

We have urged upon them that we agree upon a time and place for such discussions.

They have indicated that they would exchange views with us and we could have discussions on the subject, but no time and place have been set.

PROBLEMS IN AIDING THE CITIES

[26.] Q. Mr. President, do you recognize the problem of accelerating aid to the cities in a manner that does not seem to reward the rioters?

THE PRESIDENT. Yes.

Merriman Smith, United Press International: Thank you, Mr. President.

NOTE: President Johnson's one hundred and sixth news conference was held in his office at the White House at 11:20 a.m. on Monday, July 31, 1967. As

printed above, this item follows the text of the Official White House Transcript.

329 Special Message to the Congress: The State of the Budget and the Economy. *August 3, 1967*

To the Congress of the United States:

THE HARD AND INESCAPABLE FACTS

Behind the accounts that make up the Nation's budget lies the pursuit of America's responsibility and purpose at home and abroad.

As we enter this new Fiscal Year, the Congress and the American people should have an up-to-date report on the state of the budget, and on the steps that must be taken to protect the national security and to sustain the health and vitality of this Nation.

Last January we submitted our budget for Fiscal 1968. In that budget we estimated:

- Expenditures of \$135 billion.
- Revenues of approximately \$127 billion, including income from a 6% surcharge on corporate and individual taxes effective July 1.
- A resulting deficit of about \$8 billion.

Since then much has happened to change these prospects.

For several weeks, I have reviewed with my advisers the entire economic and budgetary situation. I have consulted with leaders of the labor, farm and business communities. As a result of that review I am submitting today a financial plan for America's continued economic well-being.

No President likes to report a significant revision in the Nation's budget estimates. Treasury, budget and economic experts tried to be as realistic as possible in the

estimates they made late last year. Yet, no task is more formidable than to try to predict—over 18 months in advance—a budget of around \$135 billion and its related revenues for 200 million Americans.

The Nation now faces these hard and inescapable facts for fiscal 1968:

- Expenditures are likely to be between the January budget figure of \$135 billion and \$143.5 billion—as much as \$8.5 billion higher—depending upon the determination and ability of the Congress and the Executive to control expenditures.
- Revenues are now estimated some \$7 billion lower than in January, even with a 6% tax surcharge.
- These changes in the January budget estimates would result in a deficit of \$23.6 billion.
- Without a tax increase and tight expenditure control, the deficit could exceed \$28 billion. And that does not include an estimated \$700 million higher cost of interest on the public debt that such a deficit would involve.

A deficit of that size poses a clear and present danger to America's security and economic health.

If left untended, this deficit could cause:

- A spiral of ruinous inflation which would rob the poor, the elderly, the millions with fixed incomes.
- Brutally higher interest rates and tight money which would cripple the home builder and home buyer, as well as the businessman. Interest rates have

already turned up sharply despite the relatively easy money policy of the Federal Reserve System.

—An unequal and unjust distribution of the cost of supporting our men in Vietnam.

—A deterioration in our balance-of-payments by increasing imports and decreasing exports.

This Congress and this Administration must not accept so large a deficit.

Under these circumstances, we must choose between two alternatives:

1. The deficit could be accepted and totally financed by additional borrowing, which itself would drive up interest rates, or

2. The deficit could be reduced by rigidly controlling expenditures, raising as much money as possible through increased taxes, and then borrowing the difference.

The first alternative would be fiscally and financially irresponsible under present conditions. The second alternative is the only way to maintain a strong and healthy economy.

America in its strength and wisdom must choose to travel a responsible fiscal and budgetary course.

That is why I present for your judgment and action a fiscal program that is sensible and sound. There are two essential elements to this program:

—expenditure restraint, to which this Administration is committed and which I urge upon the Congress.

—tax measures to increase our revenues.

FISCAL 1968 EXPENDITURES

The budget for Fiscal 1968, submitted six months ago, estimated expenditures at \$75.5 billion for the Defense Department and Atomic Energy Commission, and \$59.5 billion for our civilian programs.

These estimates may now have to be revised upward by as much as \$8.5 billion:

—\$2.5 billion for civilian programs.

—\$2 billion for reduced sales of participation certificates.

—\$4 billion for defense.

1. Civilian Expenditures

The estimate of non-defense spending for Fiscal 1968 has already increased by \$1.5 billion. This increase stems from two sources:

—First, a number of essential activities were temporarily deferred in Fiscal 1967 as part of our fight against inflation. Early this year inflationary pressures had been brought under control. Some of these deferred funds already voted by Congress were released in late February, and again in March and April, particularly to help homebuilding. This *added \$600 million* to Fiscal 1968 expenditures. These releases included funds for the purchase of low cost home mortgages (\$500 million), construction grants for health and education facilities (\$30 million), and the construction of dams, flood control projects, and other public works (\$20 million).

—Second, the January estimate of expenditures is up by \$900 million primarily because of increases in programs whose payments are *fixed by law and over which the President has no discretion*—such as payments to the States for public assistance and health programs (\$250 million), farm price supports (\$400 million), and Federal contributions to Medicare (\$150 million).

In addition, the Congress is still considering important legislative measures which will vitally affect Fiscal 1968 expenditures. Although we are already a month

into the new fiscal year, 10 of the 13 regular appropriation bills have not yet been enacted. No one knows what the total of those appropriations to be voted by Congress for this fiscal year will be.

We do know, however, that the Congress is considering a bill which would raise civilian and military pay by more than \$1 billion above the Administration's 4.5 percent pay proposal. The \$1 billion extra pay raise is equivalent to the yield of a 2 percent tax surcharge and comes directly out of the pockets of American taxpayers.

These items alone would increase civilian expenditures by \$2.5 billion above the budget submitted in January.

Moreover, the Congress, in actions by one or the other House, has reduced by over \$2 billion the authorizations I requested for the sale of participation certificates. Failure to restore these authorizations as appropriations bills move to final passage would add still further to the budget deficit.

Therefore, I urge the Congress to exercise the utmost restraint and responsibility in the legislative decisions which are yet to come and to make every effort not to exceed the January budget estimates.

The Executive Branch pledges to take every proper action within its power to reduce expenditures in the January budget. But our discretion is limited.

Of the \$61 billion now estimated for non-defense expenditures, more than two-thirds is not subject to an Executive reduction.

Consider these facts:

—More than \$30 billion will be spent on programs under which payments are definitely fixed by law or otherwise mandatory—such as interest on the public debt (over \$14 billion), veterans' compensation and insurance pensions (\$5 billion), public assistance (\$4 billion), farm price supports (\$2 billion),

medical payments out of the general revenues (over \$1 billion), legislature and judiciary (over \$350 million).

—More than \$15 billion will be spent to complete contracts or obligations entered into in prior years, such as the purchase of mortgages under earlier commitments and the completion of construction begun in 1966 or 1967.

—An additional \$8 billion is spent for the pay of Federal employees in civilian agencies other than the Post Office. Substantial reductions are not possible in these expenditures without bringing to a halt many essential activities such as law enforcement and the Nation's air navigation system. Another \$1 billion will be spent if the 4.5 percent civilian and military pay increase I recommended is enacted.

After taking account of these items, and allowing for a reduction of more than \$5 billion in total expenditures—achieved through the sale of financial assets—this leaves only \$12 billion of outlays over which the President has discretion in the year ahead. Even here, many indispensable programs are involved: for example, medical supplies and equipment for veterans' hospitals, equipment for the U.S. Coast Guard, grants for construction of civilian hospitals.

Reductions in spending will not be easy, for the budget submitted in January was already lean. But I pledge to the Country and the Congress that I will make every possible expenditure reduction—civilian and military—short of jeopardizing the Nation's security and well-being.

As the Congress completes each appropriation bill for Fiscal 1968 expenditures, we will examine at once, *very, very carefully*, the results of those actions, and determine where, how, and by how much expenditures under these appropriations can be reduced.

I am directing each Department and Agency head to review every one of his programs, to identify reductions which can be made and to report to the Director of the Budget in detail on the actions he is taking to put those reductions into effect.

But action by the Executive Branch alone is not enough.

It will achieve nothing if every time the Executive Branch saves a dollar, the Congress adds another dollar—or more—to the expenditures recommended in my January budget.

All actions we take to reduce Federal spending must—and will—be carefully and compassionately weighed. For we cannot turn our backs on the great programs that have been begun, with such promise, in the last three and one-half years. And we cannot now postpone—at a much higher economic and human cost later—the urgent task of making the streets of America safe from crime and chaos and rooting out the underlying causes of unrest and injustice in our land.

Nevertheless, we must move with determination to assure that those for whom these programs were begun are not robbed by the inflation that would accompany an unacceptable deficit.

2. *Defense Expenditures*

I have concluded, after considering the recommendations of Secretary McNamara, the Joint Chiefs of Staff and General Westmoreland, that I should authorize an increase of at least 45,000 in the number of men to be sent to Vietnam this fiscal year.

This Nation has taken a solemn pledge—that its sons and brothers engaged in the conflict there shall never lack all the help, all the arms, and all the equipment essential for their mission and for their very lives.

America must—and will—honor that pledge. It is for this reason that expenditures for Vietnam—subject as they are to the variable demands of military operations—may now exceed our earlier estimates.

The Department of Defense has been a pace-setter in the Federal Government for efficiency and economy. Still, any organization that has so greatly expanded in so short a time is bound to have some areas in which further economies can be achieved or less essential expenditures stretched out.

I have asked Secretary McNamara, therefore, to conduct a searching review of all defense expenditures and to withhold all such expenditures that are not now essential for national security.

By such action we will try to hold total defense expenditures as near as possible to the level budgeted in January. However, the history of war teaches one clear lesson: the costs of conflict can never be precisely estimated nor fully foreseen. Thus, the possibility remains that defense spending in Fiscal 1968, based on present plans, may exceed the January budget by up to \$4 billion.

FISCAL 1968 REVENUES

The Fiscal 1968 budget submitted in January projected revenues of approximately \$127 billion, including income from the tax measure I proposed at that time.

Since January, revenue estimates have been revised downward by a total of about \$7 billion:

—\$800 million as the result of Congressional action in restoring the investment credit and accelerated depreciation earlier than the budget had assumed and more generously than the Administration had requested.

—\$1.3 billion because of lower corporate profits and \$300 million because of

lower personal income than projected six months ago.

- \$3 billion because of a decrease in estimated yield from existing income tax rates and \$200 million because of a decrease in the estimate yield of gift and estate taxes and customs.
- \$600 million because of a reduced estimate of miscellaneous receipts such as stockpile sales (\$450 million) and offshore oil revenues (\$80 million).
- \$800 million because of a later effective date for the surcharge on personal income taxes than recommended last January.

A PROGRAM TO INCREASE OUR REVENUES

Just as we must take determined action to control expenditures, so we must take action to increase our revenues if we are to avoid an unsafe and unmanageable deficit in the fiscal year ahead.

The three point tax program here presented is shaped to provide the fairest and least disruptive means of sustaining—without inflation—America's unprecedented period of uninterrupted prosperity, now in its seventy-eighth month.

1. *A speed-up of corporate tax collections, as recommended last January.*

Beginning January 1, 1968, corporations would pay their estimated taxes on the basis of 80% of their liability, rather than 70%.

Over a 5-year period, small corporations, as well as large, would become current in their tax payments, in the same way as individual proprietors already are.

This acceleration in collections should yield \$800 million in additional revenues for Fiscal 1968, somewhat more in subsequent years.

2. *Continuation of excise taxes for the immediate future.*

The 7% manufacturer's excise tax on automobiles is now scheduled to fall to 2% on April 1, 1968, and to 1% on January 1, 1969.

The drop to 2% should be postponed to July 1, 1969, and the drop to 1% should be postponed to January 1, 1970.

The 10% excise tax on telephone service is now scheduled to fall to 1% on April 1, 1968, and to be eliminated on January 1, 1969.

The drop to 1% should be postponed to July 1, 1969, and the tax should be eliminated on January 1, 1970.

Extending these excise taxes would provide additional revenues of \$300 million for Fiscal 1968 and more than \$2 billion for Fiscal 1969.

3. *Surcharges on corporate and personal income taxes.*

—A temporary surcharge of 10% should be placed on corporate income tax liabilities, effective July 1, 1967.

—A temporary surcharge of 10% should be placed on individual income tax liabilities, effective October 1, 1967.

These are surcharges on taxes, not on incomes. They would expire on June 30, 1969, or continue for so long as the unusual expenditures associated with our efforts in Vietnam require higher revenues.

These surcharges are four percentage points higher than recommended in January. But they are vitally necessary to provide some of the additional revenues this Nation must have. Altogether, the new surcharges will yield \$6.3 billion in revenues for Fiscal 1968, and somewhat more in Fiscal 1969.

Under this proposal:

—A family of four with an income of \$10,000, now ordinarily paying a tax of about \$1,100 will pay at most an added tax of \$9.25 a month.

—Those American families whose in-

comes are below \$10,000—3 out of every 4—will pay less than this amount.

—The 16 million taxpayers in the lowest income brackets would be completely exempt from the surcharge. For example, a married couple with 2 children, with an income of less than \$5,000 a year, would pay no surcharge.

—The one out of every four American families who now pay no income tax would be unaffected by the surcharge.

Let us be clear about the significance of this tax surcharge.

If Americans today still paid taxes at the rates in effect when I became President, a little over three and one-half years ago, they would be paying this year over \$23 billion more than they are paying now.

Now your Government is asking for a return of substantially less than half of those tax cuts that I recommended and the Congress overwhelmingly passed in the last three years. This is necessary to give American fighting men the weapons, equipment and the help they need, to hold the budget deficit within limits and to continue our education, health, poverty, urban and other vital programs.

For three out of every four American families, the burden of this increase will be between a few cents and \$9 a month. That is a small burden, a small inconvenience, compared to what is borne by our men in arms who put their lives on the line in Vietnam.

A SOUND AND HEALTHY ECONOMIC ADVANCE

These tax recommendations, taken together, would raise \$7.4 billion in Fiscal 1968. These added revenues—combined with the steps that the Congress and the Executive can and should take to control expenditures—will reduce the deficit to manageable

proportions. If, working together, we can avoid an excessive pay increase, and provide the recommended authorization for sale of participation certificates, the deficit could be reduced to a range between \$14 and \$18 billion, depending upon our ability to hold down expenditures.

Last January, we concluded that higher taxes in Fiscal 1968 would safeguard our prosperity. Present economic prospects reaffirm that judgment.

It is the unanimous judgment of the President's advisers that the fiscal program we are recommending is consistent with a sound and healthy economic advance during the year ahead, without tight money and soaring interest rates.

THE COSTS OF INACTION

Failure to act promptly on these tax proposals and to restrain unnecessary spending could have the most serious consequences:

—The Nation could face a return of strong inflationary pressures and an intensified wage-price spiral—which could rob the poor, the elderly, the millions with fixed incomes. We would lose our opportunity to make progress this year toward one of our most urgent objectives: price stability.

—An excessive expansion of domestic markets could again quicken the flow of imports to the United States, while rising costs and prices cut into our exports. The position of the dollar as the key element in the world's financial system could be impaired.

—The resulting distortions in our economy could ultimately endanger the prosperity that generates the jobs and opportunities our men returning from Vietnam have the right to expect.

—Spiraling interest rates and severely

tight money would return.

What the Government does not raise through taxes the Government must borrow.

That additional borrowing would be imposed on financial markets already strained by the unprecedented demands of private borrowers and State and local governments. Long term interest rates are already near their peaks of late last summer, and short term rates have begun to climb.

Without a tax increase, I am informed by Chairman Martin that nothing the Federal Reserve System could responsibly do could avoid the spiraling of interest rates.

As interest rates rose, a starvation of mortgage funds would throw housing into a new depression before it had even recovered from the last one. Every other borrower—but most of all the small businessman and farmer—would bear the cost of our fiscal irresponsibility.

A failure to raise taxes would not avoid the burdens of financing a war. For these burdens are inescapable. But, instead of sharing those burdens equitably and responsibly—as an income tax surcharge would do—inflation, tight money, and shortages would tax the American people cruelly and capriciously. The consequences of that irresponsibility would haunt America and its people for years to come.

CONCLUSION

Some may hear in this message a call to sacrifice.

In truth, it is a call to the sense of obligation felt by all Americans.

Americans in Vietnam stand in, and brighten, the light of a proud tradition. They give their service, and some give their lives, for their country—and for us.

To this point, America has served them

well by supporting them unstintingly to the last of their needs while building a strong and prosperous Nation at home.

I urge you to remember the following. Last year:

- Real wages were the highest in history—and the unemployment rate reached the lowest point in 13 years;
- Total after-tax real income of American families rose 5 percent;
- Corporate profits after taxes reached an all-time peak, up 9 percent last year;
- Net income per farm increased more than 9 percent, even after adjusting for the higher prices farmers paid;
- Our Gross National Product, valued in constant prices, advanced 5.8 percent.

These gains were achieved without either runaway inflation, or the imposition of the wage and price controls which have been the condition of American life in every conflict of this century.

In significant part, this was the result of responsibility and restraint exercised by the business, farm, and labor communities.

The current situation summons those groups as never before to maintain that responsibility in their wage and price decisions.

It summons all Americans to respond with that same responsibility in the challenge of their own lives.

The inconveniences this demand imposes are small when measured against the contribution of a Marine on patrol in a sweltering jungle, or an airman flying through perilous skies, or a soldier ten thousand miles from home, waiting to join his outfit on the line.

There are times in a Nation's life when its armies must be equipped and fielded, and the Nation's business must still go on. For America that time is now.

The Nation's unfinished agenda here at

home must be pursued as well. The poor must be lifted from the prisons of poverty, cities must be made safe and livable, sick and undernourished bodies must be restored, our air and water must be kept clean, and every hour of our future must see new opportunities unfold.

This, then, is the story behind the facts and forecasts, and the recommendations I submit today.

Last January I told the Nation:

"I wish I could report to you that the conflict in Vietnam is almost over. This I cannot do. We face more cost, more loss, and more agony. For the end is not yet. I cannot promise that it will come this year—or come next year. Our adversary still believes, I think tonight, that he can go on fighting longer than we can, and longer than we and our allies will be prepared to stand up and resist.

"Our men in that area—there are nearly 500,000 now—have borne well the 'burden and the heat of the day.' Their efforts have deprived the Communist enemy of the victory that he sought and that he expected a year ago. We have steadily frustrated his main forces. General Westmoreland reports that the enemy can no longer succeed on the battlefield.

"I must say to you that our pressure must be sustained—and will be sustained—until he realizes that the war he started is costing him more than he can ever gain.

"I know of no strategy more likely to attain that end than the strategy of 'accumulating slowly, but inexorably, every kind of material resource'—of 'laboriously teaching troops the very elements of their trade.' That, and patience—and I mean a great deal of patience."

Those words are even more true today.

The test before us as a people is not whether our commitments match our will and our courage; but whether we have the will and the courage to match our commitments.

I urge the Congress to respond to the fiscal challenge that faces the Nation. I hope that in the National interest you will act promptly and favorably upon these recommendations.

LYNDON B. JOHNSON

The White House

August 3, 1967

NOTE: The Revenue and Expenditure Control Act of 1968 was approved by the President on June 28, 1968 (Public Law 90-364; 82 Stat. 251).

For the President's news conference on the tax message, see Item 330.

330 The President's News Conference on the Tax Message.

August 3, 1967

THE TAX MESSAGE

THE PRESIDENT. [1.] We have reached the day some of you have been expecting for some time. The tax message is going to the Congress.

We will ask for taxes that we expect to produce about \$7 billion 400 million for the fiscal year beginning July 1.

We have reestimated our revenues and our expenditures. They run something like this: The deficit we went in with last January was \$8.1 billion. We estimate now we will have \$8.5 billion additional expenditures that were not included in this first figure. There are \$8.5 billion in additional expenditures.

There will be \$1.5 billion in funds we

released last spring that had been impounded, you will remember. That will be spent the next fiscal year. That is like housing funds, public works projects, and some of those funds we impounded.

The Congress is considering a pay bill that will be \$1 billion above the budget. We think prudence indicates that we ought to consider the possibility of that being enacted.

We recommended a 4.5 percent increase for Federal, civilian, and military employees. The bill which they have—the most popular one under consideration—would be another \$1 billion.¹ We think we have to look at the facts of life there.

We asked for \$4.4 billion in participation certificate sales. We think it will be \$2 billion short of that at the moment.

In the light of the additional men we will have to send to Vietnam, which will be in the neighborhood of 45,000 or 50,000, and the allowance for extra expenses that we can best calculate, we estimate that to be in the neighborhood of \$4 billion. That is \$8.5 billion total.

Our revenues are down \$7 billion-plus. I will give you the breakdown on that. Our tax bill of 6 percent, we had calculated, would give us another \$4.7 billion.

If we don't have a tax bill, the interest will be an additional \$700 million. \$4.7 billion and \$700 million will be \$5.4 billion. There is where we start with the potential deficit. That is \$29 billion.

What are we going to do about the \$29 billion? We hope, first, that we can take \$1 billion off here by the pay bill if the Congress will stay with the budget estimates, and we so recommend.

We hope we can take \$2 billion more off by giving us the authority to sell \$2 billion

in PC's [participation certificates].

For every billion we take off, we will save 2 points on the surtax. If we have a pay bill of an extra billion dollars, we would have to have 2 points extra on our 10 percent surtax to take care of that extra billion. For every \$1 billion you spend, it means 2 points surtax, so here we hope we can save 6 points on surtax.

That takes \$3 billion off there.

We have a 10 percent surtax on corporations effective July 1st. We have a 10 percent surtax on individuals effective October 1st. We have to have our forms printed and the withholding. We think that is the earliest date possible—October 1st. They could make it July 1st if they were so disposed to, and we hope they will.

I made clear to Chairman Mills and the Democratic leadership, the members of the Ways and Means Committee, Mr. Byrnes,² and others, that we would like to have prompt hearings and have this measure voted. If they cannot vote it as we recommend it, then vote it as their best judgment indicates; at least take action one way or the other.

There is nothing that is as hurtful as uncertainty in the economic community. Chairman Mills has indicated to me that he will try to start hearings on the 14th. When he gets his social security bill out, and it will be up in Congress, he hopes we can be ready for testimony on the 14th. I have instructed all of our people to be ready for that testimony.

Under that tax bill, that 10 percent surcharge that expires in 1969 or when the Vietnam problem is over with, plus the ex-

¹For the President's remarks upon signing the Postal Revenue and Federal Salary Act of 1967, see Item 546.

²Representative Wilbur D. Mills of Arkansas, Chairman of the House Committee on Ways and Means, and Representative John W. Byrnes of Wisconsin, ranking Republican member of the Committee.

tension of the excises due to expire next April—and they will give you the details—that will raise \$7.4 billion, so that will give us \$10.4 billion, if we get everything that we are asking for, and we will not.

One billion dollars for the pay bill. Bear in mind, we can have a pay bill of 4.5 percent, but they are considering one that is \$1 billion above the 4½ percent. That is what we want knocked out. We are getting \$2 billion in certificates, but they are cutting \$2 billion in certificates. We are asking to add the \$2 billion. We asked for it in the budget. We counted on it in the budget. We hope the Congress will put it in the budget. There is an indication they will. So that is \$3 billion.

Take the \$10.4 billion from your \$29 billion. That gives you an \$18.6 billion. Then we only have three appropriation bills. We expect to get another 10 or 12, probably 12 more. We will take each one of those 15 and see what we can cut out of there.

The tax message shows that really there is only about \$12 billion that is within the discretion of the President. First the Congress will cut some of it, and we hope it will reduce this \$18.6 billion. But we have about \$12 billion in the nonmilitary. If we can cut \$1 billion, \$1.5 billion, 10 percent out of that, then we have the military. That will be some \$79 billion, I guess, counting the atomic energy and the estimated \$4 billion. We will try to squeeze any water we can out of that.

Whatever we can squeeze out will be deducted from the \$18 billion. It could be as much as \$4 billion. The deficit will likely be somewhere in the area of \$14 billion to \$18 billion, depending on the appropriations.

You cannot cut an appropriation that has not been appropriated. We have only had three of them, and they are the minor ones,

not the big ones. If the bill comes to you that has \$79 billion in appropriations, you can cut it more than you can with one that has \$69 billion. We will have to see what happens there.

That is roughly the picture. Summarizing briefly, and the experts can take all of your questions, we see the potential deficit as \$29 billion. We have to be realistic and face that budget.

What do you do with that kind of a deficit?

We could borrow it all, but with corporation profits, personal income, farmers' income, prosperity what it is, we don't think that would be a wise course. There is no one in the Government that recommends borrowing it all.

We could tax it all, but if you only get \$7.4 billion out of a 10 percent surtax, you see it would take a 40 percent surtax, or maybe more, because part of that is excises, to tax it all. We don't think the economy would take that.

So without taxing it all, or borrowing it all, we have taken another alternative. We wish we had a balanced budget. We wish we didn't have any problems. I guess all of you do in your own lives.

But we will borrow a part of it, tax a part of it, and save a part of it. So we are going to tax—of the \$28 billion or \$29 billion, whatever it runs, \$30 billion—we are going to try to tax \$7.4 billion. We are going to try to tax \$8 billion and try to save \$8 billion and have the best of the \$14 billion or \$16 billion, somewhere in there, by taxing, by cutting, and by borrowing, instead of borrowing it all or taxing it all.

We may be off a billion or two. I don't want to affect your credibility by having you make speculations that don't always come true. I am sure that happens once in

a while. I don't want to get myself into a credibility problem any more than I already have.

I would warn all of you that these are "guesstimates" as best they can be. We have sent four State of the Union Messages, four Budget Messages, to the Congress since I have been President. We estimated our deficits in those 4 years would be \$23.9 billion and it is \$23.8 billion-plus.

So our estimate on the deficits we have had has been reasonably good. We want to try to make it as accurate as we know how. But in an \$800 billion economy, \$175 billion NIA [national income accounts] budget, \$135 billion budget here, if you are off 2 percent you have a lot of serious trouble.

We hope we are not off 2 percent or 1 percent. We have not been on our 4-year deficits. This year we were off, but the first 3 years we had a plus.

So we took the plus the first 3 years and the minus the fourth year and we came out right on the nose, \$23.8 billion, and we predicted a \$23.9 billion deficit. That is what we are trying to guess now, just as sincerely and accurately as we know how.

We have looked at the economy. We have sent wires to 100 corporations to get their estimates. We have talked to labor leaders. We have talked to farmers. We have had economic advisers and Treasury estimators, as well as the Federal Reserve Board.

It is our best judgment that these are the best figures we can assemble. We know there will be an error somewhere. We think this \$8.5 billion in additional expenditures can be cut quickly by \$3 billion in these two items.⁸

We know this other cannot be cut—the \$1.5 billion—because it has already gone.

⁸ Here the President pointed to a blackboard. The items were "pay bill" and "participation certificates."

We do not know what will happen on the \$4 billion, but it is a prudent estimate at the moment. There are a lot of things that are not in this estimate.

The *Forrestal* was not in it—at \$100 million. The supply facility yesterday was not in it. The Danang mortar shell the other day—\$80 million—was not in it. We just cannot guess those things.⁴ Those things usually are not put in.

We have some contingency. There may be more of them. They may be different. But our hope is that we can get this \$29 billion down to \$10.4 billion quickly with these three items—tax, participation, and pay. That is \$18 billion.

We hope that we can cut something out of this \$12 billion that I can play with.

We have \$61 billion nonmilitary expenditures in the budget. Of that \$61 billion, there is \$30 billion I cannot touch. \$14 billion of it is interest. \$4 billion of it is untouchable. There is \$15 billion more that is in contracts; that is untouchable. That is \$45 billion.

Then there are \$8 billion more that is in salaries for Federal workers. That is \$53 billion.

So, of the \$61 billion, there is \$53 billion—and in that \$53 billion, \$1 billion of it is pay—and that gets me down to just the few billions you can reduce.

If you reduce the 10 percent, or 20 percent, you would just be getting it bigger.

It is unlikely you can reduce Defense much, unless you had something you cannot calculate at the end. So we will cut that \$18 billion, we hope, somewhere between

⁴ The President referred to disasters costly to the United States, including an accidental fire which badly damaged the aircraft carrier *Forrestal* in the Gulf of Tonkin near the coast of North Vietnam on July 29, 1967.

\$14 billion and \$18 billion. We will cut everything we could hope for—or if we did not get any of it—somewhere between \$14 billion and \$18 billion.

That is what we are saying. Instead of borrowing it all or taxing it all, we are going to borrow part of it, tax part of it, save part of it, and cut part of it. Cut, tax, and borrow—none of it is pleasant.

I wish I did not have to tell you, but that is the fact. That is all I know about it. I will answer any questions I can. Then, you will get better answers from Mr. Fowler.⁵

Yes, Mr. Lisagor.⁶

QUESTIONS

[2.] Q. I thought I heard you say in passing that “in 1969 when the Vietnam problem is over”—did I hear that correctly?

THE PRESIDENT. No. I said that the tax would expire on a certain day in 1969, or it could continue. On the tax, I gave an expiration date, except for Vietnam.

TROOP LEVELS

[3.] Q. Mr. President, the mention of 45,000 and 50,000 troops over those presently authorized levels for fiscal 1968—what would that bring the total to of troops in Vietnam?

THE PRESIDENT. It is 525,000.

Q. In what period is that, sir?

THE PRESIDENT. Over this year—the fiscal year of July to June.

ATTITUDE OF WAYS AND MEANS COMMITTEE

[4.] Q. Does Congressman Mills support this proposal?

THE PRESIDENT. You will have to talk to Congressman Mills. He will start hearings on the 14th. We believe he will want to hear our justifications.

We have asked the Secretary of the Treasury, the Chairman of the Council of Economic Advisers, and the Budget Director to be available to him. I have briefed all of the leadership of the Ways and Means Committee on it—Mr. Mills and Mr. Byrnes.

I have talked to Mr. Mills several times. I talked to Mr. Byrnes at some length. I talked to all of the Ways and Means Committee earlier this morning. I have asked for no commitments from them, and I have received none.

I think they all realize the problem we have to face together. It may be that we have a better way of doing that than we are doing it. But the way we can see it is that if we had to borrow \$29 billion, everybody said we cannot do that.

If we had to tax \$29 billion, everybody said we should not do that. If you cannot borrow it, and can't tax it, what do you do? We are going to try to save as much as we can. We will give you that as soon as we get the bills.

We are going to try to tax \$7.4 billion. That is laid on the line. Then we are going to try to borrow the rest. I do not know what Mr. Mills will do, or what the Ways and Means Committee will do, or what Congress will do.

I hope whatever they do, they will do it promptly. They indicated to me they will try to face up to it very quickly—on the 14th—just as soon as they get this social security bill reported.

SIZE OF SURTAX NEEDED

[5.] Q. Mr. President, you said every billion dollars means 2 points of surtax.

⁵ Henry H. Fowler, Secretary of the Treasury.

⁶ Peter Lisagor of the Chicago Daily News.

Does that mean if they don't do any of this, and it is \$29 billion instead of \$18.6 billion, that is 5 more points of surtax for the man in the street?

THE PRESIDENT. Let us just take one illustration.

I don't follow your illustration as well as I follow my own. We are all that way, I think.

There is a \$1 billion pay bill. If they vote the \$1 billion more in pay than the budget request, if we were to offset that with taxes, we would have to raise the surtax 2 points.

If they voted \$2 billion more, we would have to raise it 4 points.

If they voted \$3 billion more, it would be 6 points.

EFFECTIVE DATE; OTHER POSSIBLE FORMULAS

[6.] Q. Mr. President, if Congress would give you the savings quickly that you are asking, would you be willing to scale down the surtax?

THE PRESIDENT. I think that this is the best formula. This is the most realistic. We do not think that you can get much before October 1st. We are asking that it be July 1st on corporations.

We have had that notice out since January. Most of them have figured it in their plans. Corporations can do that, but we cannot get out your forms and get withholding of your 10 percent surcharge on individuals before October, in our judgment.

This is the first of August, so it would give us just August and September. Even if they start the 14th and hurry it, we think that is the most realistic date.

We do not think any of these figures will be just exactly what we are estimating. There may be some fellow who has a better plan. But we can't borrow it all and we can't

tax it all. We have to borrow part of it, save part of it, and tax part of it. That is what we are doing.

They may have to raise the tax more than the \$7.4 billion out of the \$29 billion. They may want to lower it. I would hope that they would not lower it.

They may want to borrow more than we think we should borrow. We impounded some of these funds to try to save some of this. They may not want us to do that. They did not here. That is why we had to release that.

They appropriated \$1 billion for housing and we just spent a part of it. We impounded it, but they got us to release a part of it. This is in these figures.

We have asked for their judgment. We hope they will give their judgment promptly. This is our judgment. Then, as always, there will be a blending of the two, of course.

REACTION OF BUSINESS COMMUNITY
AND OF LABOR

[7.] Q. Mr. President, what was the general reaction of the business community when you talked to these people?

THE PRESIDENT. I believe most of the responsible business people—and I think all of them I talked to are responsible—believed we ought to have a tax increase. There is a difference of opinion as to the amount. There is a difference of opinion as to the date. There is a difference of opinion as to the type.

That is true with both business and labor. But I would guess—and this is off the top of my head—if you took 100 top business executives, 95 of them would feel we should have a tax increase rather than borrow the \$29 billion, or rather than think you could save the \$29 billion.

We will have a lot of speeches on nonessential expenditures. We are going to try to cut out what we think are some nonessential items. But no one thinks you can cut out \$29 billion or \$10 billion or \$15 billion. Everybody thinks you have to raise some of it or borrow it all.

I would say 95 out of 100 think you have to have a tax raise. I would say labor people would like it to be more on corporations than individuals. We have tried to meet that some by exempting a family of four that earns under \$5,000 a year.

It means about \$9 a month for a family that has an income of \$10,000 a year. I don't have it on the \$20,000 or \$30,000 figure that would affect some of you.

REVENUE ESTIMATES IN THE TAX MESSAGE

[8.] Q. Mr. President, this might be a question for Mr. Fowler or Mr. Ackley,⁷ but

⁷ Gardner Ackley, Chairman of the Council of Economic Advisers.

on page 5, the revenue estimates, I am not clear about the dual reference to the loss of personal income tax, based on lower income.

THE PRESIDENT. If you are through with me, I may go along.

ALTERNATIVE SUGGESTED BY REPUBLICAN COORDINATING COMMITTEE

[9.] Q. Could I ask your reaction to the Republican Coordinating Committee's call for you to withdraw your budget and send a new one to avoid any tax increase? Is that a practical alternative?

THE PRESIDENT. What committee is that?

Q. The Republican Coordinating Committee.

THE PRESIDENT. I have given you my reaction.

Reporter: Thank you, Mr. President.

NOTE: President Johnson's one hundred and seventh news conference was held in the Fish Room at the White House at 11:12 a.m. on Thursday, August 3, 1967.

331 Remarks to the Press After a Meeting With Cyrus Vance and General Throckmorton on the Situation in Detroit.

August 3, 1967

Ladies and gentlemen:

For the last hour, or almost hour and a half, I have met with Secretary Vance and General Throckmorton, two of our most outstanding Americans who have just completed a mission which involved outstanding service to this Nation.

Ten days ago, after a request from the Governor of the State of Michigan, the mission of these two men, and the soldiers they led, was begun. It culminates with their oral report to me today.

Their evaluations will be prepared carefully in the days ahead and given to Secretary McNamara, whom Mr. Vance serves as Special Assistant in this instance.

Under the Constitution and the laws of this country and the uniform practices of all past Presidents, before troops can be used in any civil disorder, the following elements must be present when a State seeks assistance:

First, a request for troops by the legislature, if the legislature can be convened, or

if the legislature cannot be convened, by the Governor.

Two, certification of insurrection or domestic violence.

Three, the demonstration of a clear inability of State and all local authorities to control the situation despite the use of all law enforcement resources which can be brought to bear.

There are a good many reasons for this, which go back to the Constitution itself in 1789, and the great debate that took place in Congress in 1792, so that Presidents would not be throwing Federal troops around States.

There were actually none of any consequence that were called into States until the Reconstruction period, which was a period that is vivid in our memories—and not always pleasant memories, either. At that time troops were called out to occupy 60 or 70 places around election time by Governors and by Presidents.

So we tried to be very careful.

The Presidency is involved in two instances here, or really three.

The first was in the middle of the morning at 2:30 or 3 o'clock when we were notified that there was a problem in Detroit which might necessitate troops. They were momentarily alerted, as was the Secretary of the Army and the Chief of Staff of the Army, and the appropriate commanders.

So much for the 3 a.m. meeting.

The next time a request was presented to the President was a telegram filed at 10:46 that reached here at 10:56, requesting troops. The President approved that telegram and replied by saying troops would be sent. They were ordered loaded at 11:02.

Now the third requirement, either insurrection or domestic violence, was certified to the President about 11 o'clock that evening by Mr. Vance and by General Throckmorton. They had declined to do that at 8:30 that evening. They can go into that with you if they want to. When they made that certification, the President, in the same conversation, ordered the deployment.

From dozens of places throughout the country—from Kansas, Texas, Tennessee, Kentucky, and North Carolina—planes moved 4,800 men many miles, stationed them in the middle of the night in a riot-torn area. They have now returned them to their posts.

The best tribute to their commander is that not one person was injured or wounded of those 4,800. Although there were hundreds of thousands of people involved in the riot-torn city, only one person lost his life at the hands of Federal troops.

So to General Throckmorton, who has had two sons wounded in Vietnam, and who has another son now in the Academy; to Secretary Vance, who has had a long record of 7½ years of service in the Federal Government, and 7½ riots, almost one a year, which he has had to deal with, I can think of no more appropriate way to present them to you than to say to you and to the country, "Well done."

NOTE: The President spoke at 12:56 p.m. in the Fish Room at the White House. Following his remarks a news conference was held by Cyrus R. Vance, New York attorney acting as Special Assistant to the Secretary of Defense, and Lt. Gen. John L. Throckmorton, commander of the Federal troops dispatched to restore order in Detroit. The full text of the news conference is printed in the *Weekly Compilation of Presidential Documents* (vol. 3, p. 1096).

See also Items 321, 322, 325.

332 Remarks to the Delegates to Girls Nation.

*August 4, 1967**Distinguished young ladies:*

I am very happy that you could come here and be with us this morning.

I know that you have been listening to a great many speeches. I have been reading some of the speeches about you.

I thought it was rather odd this morning, when I picked up the Congressional Record, and read a tribute being paid to President Johnson. After it had taken 5 or 10 minutes of my time, I realized it was another President Johnson—your president.

Last week when I had a chance to visit with the boys delegation, I made a suggestion then that I think would be quite appropriate if I should repeat it to you. I believe in parity of opportunity and parity of responsibility even between the sexes.

I told the boys that I would like them to consider an investment. So I put this challenge to you now, as I did to them last week:

After you have completed your education, I should hope that you would give very careful consideration to investing a few years of your lives in the business of helping your Government, helping them in the crucial work of trying to serve the people of this country.

Our country needs men and women who care, and men and women who are willing to work, not just for a paycheck but for the satisfaction that comes to them from trying to make living more pleasant for other folks.

If this is true, as I believe it is, for young men, it is even more significant, or should be, for young women.

Most of your grandmothers can remember when women did not even have the right in this country to vote. One of the arguments against extending this suffrage, believe it or not, was that wives would simply vote the

way their husband voted, and this would give husbands an unfair advantage over bachelors at the polls.

I am one who has lived in a family with very strong-minded women. I know better. The democratic principle in our house has often left me on the short end of a three to one vote. Now it is just two to one. I am doing something about that. I am growing up a vote.

I remember one occasion when I was trying to exercise my right that I thought belonged to all people, the right of free speech. I tried for weeks to convince my ladies of the wisdom of a project that I had in mind and they wouldn't buy it. They wouldn't go along with me. They wouldn't get with it.

I became a bit annoyed and, rather exasperated, one day said to Luci, "There is a conspiracy of silence against me." She looked at me very calmly and said, "Daddy, why don't you join it?"

The fact is that ever since American women shared the incredible burdens and the hardships of frontier life they have played a very important part in the life of their country. It was no accident that they received the right to vote first in the new Western States of this country.

Long before the legislation that began our official War on Poverty, it was American women who were fighting the poverty in the neighborhood and fighting it in the legislative halls. It was the American women who first fought for compulsory education. It was American women who first fought against the evils of child labor. It was American women who first fought for minimum wages in this country. They won all of these fights.

So I would like to ask you today to make the same commitment that generations of American women have made before you—the commitment to teaching, the commitment to healing, the commitment to inspiring a change in our country where it is desperately needed. We must never become satisfied with just a status quo.

Most of you will start, I think, by getting married and raising families. About half of today's women marry by the age of 21. They have their last child at about the age of 30.

By the time your youngest child is in school, you may have 30 or 35 more years of active working life before you.

Today, we have 28 million working women in this country. More than one out of every three women are workers. Almost three out of every five working women are married, and living with their families.

So increasingly women are seeking the right to choose how they make their contributions to their family and their community. I think it is perfectly clear that a woman does not need a professional career to either serve her community or her country in most significant ways.

Communities all over this land need women who will speak for justice, where there is injustice, who will demand attention to the people's needs, who will break the silence of complacency, who will carry the battleflag against inertia—which is the main anchor dragging against the progress in our country.

So, however you choose to make whatever contribution you want to make, I hope you will continue to demonstrate the leadership which got you through the gate here today and which has brought you to this garden for me to see.

How well we succeed in the decades to come will largely depend on people like yourselves—on what you decide to do with your

own lives. I hope that your visit to Washington will help you to realize what a wonderful place our country is—what a great Government we have and how much our country really needs young people like you to be interested in it and to be willing to help it.

Throughout the many countries in the world today young men in uniform and out of it are serving the needs of freedom. In some places women stand by their side.

But those of you here at home have a great opportunity. You have a great role to play. There are thousands of useful tasks which may not be done at all unless you get with it, unless you decide that you want to do it.

So looking at you, I believe you will—all of you—find the place that is really waiting for you in this country. If you do, our country will be better for your having come this way.

I believe all of us, if we could have a wish, would hope that our lives had been lived in such a way that we left things better for those we love—our immediate family.

I think we all would most of all want to leave this world a better place than we found it. It has been good to most of us. We have enjoyed privileges and opportunities, benefits and luxuries, advantages and opportunities which the children of no other country have available to them.

We have an obligation to pay in return for what has been given to us, that is, to improve on what we have—leave it better than we found it—because if you give to the world the best that is within you, then the world will give a good deal of it back to you.

I hope that you will be interested in your Government and in serving it. If you cannot serve it directly, help it in every way you can.

Thank you very much.

NOTE: The President spoke at 11:25 a.m. in the Rose Garden at the White House. Early in his remarks he referred to Catherine Johnson of Birmingham, Ala., newly elected president of Girls

Nation, a group sponsored by the American Legion.

For the President's remarks to the delegates to Boys Nation, see Item 323.

333 Remarks at the Swearing In of Clifford L. Alexander as Chairman, Equal Employment Opportunity Commission. *August 4, 1967*

Mr. Alexander and family, Judge Higginbotham, distinguished Members of the Cabinet, Members of the Congress, distinguished guests:

It was a little over 3 years ago that we met here in the East Room to sign the Civil Rights Act of 1964.

That historic achievement was the product of a very long and soul-searching debate. It was a very proud victory—and it was a bipartisan one. An overwhelming majority of the Republicans as well as the Democrats had voted for this measure in the Congress of the United States.

In signing the bill, I said:

"The purpose of the law is simple.

"It does not restrict the freedom of any American, so long as he respects the rights of others.

"It does not give special treatment to any citizen.

"It does say the only limit to a man's hope for happiness, and for the future of his children, shall be his own ability."

To say this is merely to reaffirm the original promise of what we call the American system. We are a nation that is founded on the belief that the greatest achievement of the human spirit is to live up to one's opportunities—to make the very most of one's resources.

We have come here this morning and are about to swear in a new Chairman for the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission of this Government. This Commission—

like the Civil Rights Act that created it—exists for one reason, because millions of Americans are still barred from full participation in the American dream.

The doors to opportunities most of us take for granted seem to remain closed to them. Some are barred because they are of the "wrong" religion—or because their parents came from the "wrong" country—or because they are the "wrong" sex. But above all, avenues to achievement remain closed to millions of our countrymen, it seems, because they are of the "wrong" color.

Yet if we Americans, with all of our differences, share one fundamental, bedrock proposition, I think it is this: There is among us no such thing as a "wrong" religion or a "wrong" nationality. There is among us no one with the "wrong" color. We are all equal before God. We are equal in the eyes of the law. If I have anything to do with it in this country, we are all going to be equal in seeking a job.

I do not believe there is anyone in the United States who is better qualified to achieve that goal for this Government than Cliff Alexander. He knows what prejudice is. He has endured it himself—and he has fought it with every resource at his command.

He has been an outstanding student of the law. He served in our Army. He served as assistant district attorney for New York City. He led one of that city's successful programs for slum rehabilitation. He helped to dis-

cover new ways to help the children of the slums.

Cliff Alexander joined the Government in 1963. He came here as a Foreign Affairs Officer of the National Security Council. A year later he became one of my own assistants. For more than 3 years now he has given his President and his country a wise and creative counsel that belied his years.

We are reluctant to see him do any work except work at the White House—though we know that we will always use his counsel in the critical days ahead—and there may be a good bit of them here at the White House. We seem to attract crises sometimes.

In Cliff Alexander, the country gains an

able and devoted public servant in a place where a man of his understanding and where a man of his commitment is needed a great deal right now.

The Commission is in sure and skillful hands. It is above all I think in just and determined hands. My friend, Cliff, you will leave with our gratitude—and you set forth in your new mission with our admiration, with our confidence and our trust.

Thank you very much.

NOTE: The President spoke at 1:13 p.m. in the East Room at the White House. In his opening words he referred to Clifford L. Alexander, Jr., former Deputy Special Counsel to the President, and his family, and to A. Leon Higginbotham, Jr., U.S. District Judge for the Eastern District of Pennsylvania, who administered the oath of office.

334 Presidential Unit Citation Awarded the 2d Battalion (Airborne), 503d Infantry, 173d Airborne Brigade (Separate), USA, and Attached Units. *August 4, 1967*

BY VIRTUE of the authority vested in me as President of the United States and as Commander-in-Chief of the Armed Forces of the United States I have today awarded

THE PRESIDENTIAL UNIT CITATION (ARMY)
FOR EXTRAORDINARY HEROISM
TO
THE 2D BATTALION (AIRBORNE)
503D INFANTRY, 173D AIRBORNE BRIGADE
(SEPARATE)
AND ATTACHED UNITS

The 2d Battalion (Airborne), 503d Infantry, 173d Airborne Brigade (Separate), with attachments, is cited for extraordinary heroism in connection with military operations against a hostile force near Phouc Vinh, Republic of Vietnam, on March 16, 1966. The Battalion was participating as part of a larger force on a search and destroy mis-

sion sweeping a portion of war zone "D" during operation "Silver City", and had been in contact with small groups of Viet Cong during four days of operations in the dense jungle area. On the morning of 16 March the Battalion was deployed in a defensive perimeter in preparation for resuming operations.

At approximately 0700 hours a patrol from Company "B" had begun to move from its positions to initiate action against the enemy. At the same time, a resupply helicopter was descending onto the landing zone located within the Battalion perimeter. Suddenly the helicopter came under heavy automatic weapons fire from the enemy and was destroyed, and the jungle erupted in gunfire all around the defensive perimeter. The leading elements of the patrol were caught in this initial concentration of murderous fire. The Viet Cong forces, supported by a

tremendous volume of automatic weapons, mortar and artillery fire, attacked all around the perimeter. The enemy exerted considerable force at a point between Company "A" and Company "C" in an effort to effect a breakthrough at this location.

Personnel of the two companies, including the wounded, steadfastly remained in their positions, responded at close quarters with fire that was both deadly and accurate, and succeeded in breaking up the determined enemy attack. Maintaining continuous contact around the perimeter, the Viet Cong launched another strong attack to breach the defenses. This effort was focused on the center and left flank of Company "B". Time and time again the Viet Cong charged the positions, but the indefatigable and determined paratroopers of Company "B" exacted heavy casualties and beat back the enemy attackers.

Regrouping and concentrating their forces, the Viet Cong made a final assault on the flank of Company "C". This time the des-

perate Viet Cong ran forward in waves under the protective umbrella of a heavy volume of their supporting fires. Again, however, the gallant and resolute paratroopers repulsed the enemy, inflicting severe losses, completely disrupting his efforts to destroy the Battalion, and forcing the Viet Cong to withdraw. Documentary evidence indicates that the attacking force consisted of the entire Viet Cong 271st Main Force Regiment, reinforced by two artillery battalions. A total of 303 Viet Cong dead were confirmed by body count. An estimated additional 150 were killed and numerous Viet Cong were wounded during the battle. The courageous and exemplary actions of the 2d Battalion (Airborne), 503d Infantry, in decisively defeating a determined, numerically superior, and well trained and equipped enemy force reflect great credit on the members of the Unit and are in keeping with the finest traditions of the United States Army.

LYNDON B. JOHNSON

335 Remarks at the Swearing In of Warren Christopher as Deputy Attorney General of the United States.

August 5, 1967

Mr. Christopher and family, Justice Fortas, Mr. Attorney General, Senator Murphy:

The just enforcement of the laws in America depends on the integrity and intelligence of thousands of men in authority—out in the precinct stations, in the courts, in the correctional institutions, and in the Department of Justice.

For many years we have been quite blessed by the willingness of many good and brilliant men to serve the Department of Justice in positions of the highest responsibility. Warren Christopher, the new Deputy Attorney General of the United States, is such a man.

Since he was graduated with high honors from Stanford University Law School 18 years ago, Warren Christopher has engaged in a remarkable variety of tasks, all for the common good:

- as a member, or chairman, of the California Coordinating Council for Higher Education;
- as a member of the California Board of Education;
- as chairman of the American Bar's Committee on Aeronautical Law;
- as a board member of the Lawyers' Committee for Civil Rights Under Law;

- as a member or chairman of several U.S. delegations to international textile negotiations; and
- as vice chairman of the Governor's Commission that investigated the Watts riot in Los Angeles.

Warren Christopher has entered the Department of Justice at a time when America needs the kind of thoughtful leadership that he has demonstrated in many fields. The Attorney General feels, and I believe, that we have in Warren Christopher a counselor

of deep convictions and very sound judgment. We are quite proud this morning here in the Cabinet Room of the White House, in the presence of his family and his friends, to welcome him into our official family.

NOTE: The President spoke at 12:15 p.m. in the Cabinet Room at the White House. In his opening words he referred to Supreme Court Justice Abe Fortas who administered the oath of office, Attorney General Ramsey Clark, and Senator George Murphy of California.

As printed above, this item follows the text released by the White House Press Office.

336 Message to the Congress Transmitting Annual Report of the Atlantic-Pacific Interoceanic Canal Study Commission.

August 8, 1967

To the Congress of the United States:

I am transmitting the third annual report of the Atlantic-Pacific Interoceanic Canal Study Commission. The report covers the period July 1, 1966 to June 30, 1967.

During the past twelve months, the Commission has put its program into full operation. The site survey agreement, signed with Colombia on October 25, 1966, permitted the Commission to start the engineering survey of the alternate sea-level canal route in the northwestern part of that country. In Panama, the Commission completed the first full year of data collection on the routes under consideration. The first modern topographic maps of the potential canal area near the border of Nicaragua and Costa Rica were completed by the Inter-American Geodetic Survey. The Commission's Engineering Agent made a preliminary evaluation of this route on the basis of these maps.

Inter-agency working groups finished their initial drafts of special studies on the broad national and international implications of a sea-level canal. These studies cover foreign policy, national defense, canal financing,

shipping patterns and engineering feasibility.

Because of unavoidable delays in starting the field work in Panama and Colombia, and because the PLOWSHARE nuclear cratering experiments needed to determine the technical feasibility of nuclear excavation have been postponed, the Commission found that it would require additional time and funds to complete the mission assigned to it in Public Law 88-609.

An amendment for this purpose has already been approved by the Senate. I recommend its early approval by the House of Representatives.

There is little doubt that the construction of a sea-level canal is technically feasible. The major questions to be resolved are

- when it will be needed,
- whether it would be financially feasible, and
- where and how it should be constructed.

While past studies have put the need around the end of this century, recent traffic growth has been more rapid than was earlier foreseen, and the need may develop much sooner. As legislation, planning, and con-

struction could require fifteen years from the date a recommendation to proceed is made to the Congress, it is clearly in the national interest for the Commission's comprehensive investigation to proceed as rapidly as possible.

This anniversary finds the canal investigation well advanced on its planned course. I take great pleasure in forwarding the report of progress to date.

LYNDON B. JOHNSON

The White House

August 8, 1967

NOTE: The 70-page report is entitled "Third Annual Report of the Atlantic-Pacific Inter-oceanic Canal Study Commission, 31 July 1967."

An announcement of the report and summary of the Commission's work since its establishment in 1965 is printed in the Weekly Compilation of Presidential Documents (vol. 3, p. 1120).

Public Law 88-609 (78 Stat. 990), approved September 22, 1964, authorized the President to appoint a five-man commission of private citizens to make an investigation to determine the most suitable site for the construction of a sea-level canal connecting the Atlantic and Pacific Oceans. The completion of the study was postponed due to a delay in the PLOWSHARE program, an operation developed by the Atomic Energy Commission to harness nuclear energy for peaceful purposes.

337 Letter to the Speaker of the House Urging Support of the Reorganization Plan for the District of Columbia.

August 8, 1967

Dear Mr. Speaker:

Tomorrow, the House of Representatives can strike the antiquated shackles from the government of the District of Columbia.

For a hundred years, the Nation's Capital has been run by a three-man board of commissioners. That system has never worked well. No matter how able, diligent or energetic the Commissioners, they have never been able to overcome the defects of the machinery they inherited.

That machinery has bred confusion; it has produced tangled and uncertain lines of authority; it has hobbled our Capital by wasteful and inefficient practices.

At the turn of the century—in a small and serene community—those defects may have been tolerable.

Today—amidst the complexities of America's fastest growing metropolitan area—they are inexcusable.

The crime rate in the District is rising. Its streets and shops are in danger. And the conditions which breed crime worsen each passing day. These problems will not yield

to archaic and obsolete government installed as a temporary solution just after the Civil War. They cry out for strong and decisive leadership. They demand efficient and responsive authority.

That is the clear purpose of the reorganization plan I submitted to the Congress some two months ago.

This plan has received the strong endorsement of the present Commissioners, the Chief of Police, the city's leading clergy, the U.S. Conference of Mayors and concerned citizens from all walks of life.

The plan calls for a single Commissioner to replace the three commissioners. He will be the Chief Executive of the entire District Government in our Nation's Capital and I will try to secure the best City Executive in this Nation for this great responsibility. One of his top priorities will be to control crime.

The plan would also create a bipartisan city Council to work with the Commissioner.

The Government Operations Committee of the House of Representatives approved this plan last Wednesday by a vote of 26 to

Lyndon B. Johnson, 1967

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4, with 15 Democrats voting for approval and only 2 against, with 11 Republicans voting for approval and only 2 against. These men and women, who must make judgments about these problems after hearing and considering all the evidence, voted better than 6 to 1 for the plan. I urge the House to follow the bipartisan course set by that Committee and bring Twentieth Century government to the Nation's Capital.

In the hands of the House is the long-awaited chance to replace a jerry-built government of the 1870's with a new government for the new problems of the 1960's.

I ask for bipartisan support of this reorganization plan. What is at stake is good

local government in the Capital that belongs to all of us.

Time and opportunity will not wait. We just must not lose the chance we have now.

Sincerely,

LYNDON B. JOHNSON

[Honorable John W. McCormack, Speaker of the House of Representatives, Washington, D.C.]

NOTE: For the President's message to the Congress transmitting Reorganization Plan 3 of 1967, see Item 247.

For subsequent statements by the President commending favorable House action on the plan and requesting recommendations for appointments to the Council for the District of Columbia, see Items 339, 341.

338 Letter to Senate and House Committee Chairmen Recommending Measures To Expand the Guaranteed Loan Program for College Students. *August 9, 1967*

Dear _____:

The Guaranteed Loan Program authorized under Title IV-B of the Higher Education Act of 1965 is now entering its second full year of operation. During the past 12 months about \$400 million in loans to 480,000 students have been made and guaranteed by a State or a nonprofit private loan guarantee agency in each of the 50 States and the District of Columbia and Puerto Rico. More than 13,000 lenders, including commercial banks, savings and loan, and credit unions are participating.

The program is designed primarily to ease the burden of increasing college costs for middle-income families by providing long-term credit assistance. It should be distinguished from NDEA Title II, College Work Study, and Educational Opportunity Grants which are directed toward students from low-income families who must have assistance if they are to get a college education.

During the first year of activity, a number of problem areas were identified which seemed to restrict accessibility to these guaranteed loans on the part of all the students and their families who desired them. Our review and analysis of these problems has led us to recommend the following changes for strengthening and improving the program:

A. *Extension of State guarantee capability*

As originally enacted, Title IV-B contained two plans for underwriting commercial loans to students. The first of these provided for an allocation to the several States of directly appropriated "seed money" deposits to be used to help establish or strengthen existing State guarantee funds. In 1966, \$17.5 million was appropriated for this purpose to be allocated over a 3-year period. Additionally, in 1967, 14 States have appropriated in excess of \$20 million to augment their own guarantee funds.

The second plan contains authority for the U.S. Commissioner of Education to issue certificates of insurance backed by credit of the United States to underwrite loans if and when he determines that eligible students are denied access to a loan guarantee.

The existence of separate parallel authorities, one grounded in State administration and the other in Federal administration, has led to a lack of a clear definition of the role and responsibility of each State in this broad program. For this reason, and to obtain maximum use of guarantee funds already on deposit from whatever source derived, we are proposing to weld the State guarantee-fund concept and the credit of the Federal Government into a single re-insurance authority. In this way, existing loan guarantee funds (totaling nearly \$60 million in State and Federal funds) could be, in effect, re-insured 4 times to create a new reserve capacity of \$240 million which in turn will provide guarantee capability for \$2.4 billion in new loans. This expansion has the added advantage of providing immediate additional guarantee capability, since a guarantee fund now exists in or for every State.

Also, we propose to continue State administration of the program through an amended agreement with each State government or loan agency. Income from investment of Federal "seed money" plus a portion of the insurance premium, to be set at $\frac{1}{2}$ percent per annum, would be turned over to the State administrative agency to help cover administrative expenses. The State, at its own option, may elect to subcontract administration of the program to a public or private nonprofit agency equipped to do the job.

B. *Future authorization of "seed money"*

To further enhance the expansion of the program, we propose extension of authority for appropriation of "seed money". This au-

thority would be limited to \$12.5 million in FY 1969 and would require an equal matching deposit by each State. Such matched funds, totaling \$25 million would also be subject to the 4:1 multiplier effect of the re-insurance program, creating a maximum of \$100 million in guarantee reserve which in turn could support an additional \$1 billion in loans.

Effective operation of these two authorities depends, in the long run, upon State appropriation of guarantee funds. Those States which have already made heavy appropriations would not need to provide additional funds for some years. States which have provided minimal or no appropriations would need to provide additional State funds in possibly two or three years.

C. *Placement and conversion fees*

On June 15, Secretary Gardner transmitted to the Speaker of the House and to the President of the Senate a series of recommendations for improvement of the Guaranteed Loan Program which were based on the work of a committee headed by Under Secretary of the Treasury, Joseph W. Barr.

In order to extend more equitably the benefits of the loan guarantee, we are proposing that the loan placement and conversion fees be paid by the Federal Government for services rendered by the lender whether or not the student also qualifies for the interest subsidy.

D. *Interim use of Federal insurance*

Traditionally, the period from late July to early September—immediately preceding the beginning of the college year—has been the peak demand period. In a few States, the original allocation of Federal advance funds has been totally encumbered, and there are no additional guarantee funds available. For the weeks immediately ahead, the only means

available to underwrite loans in these States, is that of the Federal insurance certificate. Immediately upon enactment and State implementation of the re-insurance authority recommended above, the need for direct Federal insurance will have disappeared. Notes insured by the Federal Government will be turned back to the State agency for servicing so that lenders in the State will only be dealing with a single program.

In conclusion, I would point out that the next few weeks are critical insofar as both lenders and student borrowers are concerned. Several hundred thousand students and their families are looking toward these guaranteed

bank loans as a source of meeting fall semester expenses. For this reason, early consideration of these recommendations by your committee is of great importance.

Sincerely,

LYNDON B. JOHNSON

NOTE: This is the text of identical letters addressed to Senator Lister Hill of Alabama, Chairman of the Senate Committee on Labor and Public Welfare and to Representative Carl D. Perkins of Kentucky, Chairman of the House Committee on Education and Labor.

For statements by the President on Federal assistance programs for college students, see Item 304.

The President's request for extension of the guaranteed loan program was not enacted during the 1st session of the 90th Congress.

339 Statement by the President Following Action in the House of Representatives on the Reorganization Plan for the District of Columbia. *August 9, 1967*

TODAY, after 93 years, the House of Representatives has voted to replace the rusted gears of government in the Nation's Capital with an efficient city management.

It has said "yes" to good District Government—to responsive District Government.

In supporting this reorganization plan, the House has brought good news to every American—for the Nation's Capital belongs to all of us.

I have begun an intensive search for a good executive to fill the new post of District Commissioner. High on the new Commissioner's agenda will be the task of

stemming the District's spiralling crime rate.

With modern government and the best executive talent, the Nation's Capital can move forward into a new era of progress.

As President, and as a resident of the District for the past 36 years, I am proud of this moment and grateful for the action taken by the House of Representatives for the benefit of the citizens of the District and our country.

NOTE: The President transmitted Reorganization Plan 3 of 1967 relating to the government of the District of Columbia on June 1 (see Item 247).

See also Items 337, 341, 377, 406.

340 Remarks to the Press Following a Meeting With the U.S. Representative to the Eighteen-Nation Disarmament Committee in Geneva. *August 11, 1967*

I JUST HAD a very extended, interesting, and, I think, very satisfactory and hopeful meeting with Ambassador Foster. As you

know, he is one of our most devoted public servants. For many years he has served his country with great credit. He is returning to

Geneva tomorrow.

We look forward to the conclusion of a very long exercise of wisdom, patience, and dedication upon Mr. Foster's part.

Thank you.

NOTE: The President spoke at 12 noon in the Fish

Room at the White House.

Following his remarks Ambassador William C. Foster made a brief statement and responded to reporters' questions concerning progress in Geneva towards conclusion of the nuclear nonproliferation treaty. The full text of Ambassador Foster's remarks is printed in the Weekly Compilation of Presidential Documents (vol. 3, p. 1126).

341 Statement by the President on the New Government of the District of Columbia. *August 11, 1967*

WHEN the Congress was considering the plan to reorganize the Government of our Nation's Capital, I assured them that I would seek out the best qualified man I could find for the posts of District Commissioner and Assistant Commissioner. We have already begun that search in the District and throughout the country.

I also stated, and the reorganization plan approved by the Congress provides, that appointments to the City Council for the District of Columbia "shall be made with a view toward achieving a Council membership which will be broadly representative of the

District of Columbia community." I wish to request all organizations and citizens of the District who are interested in the membership of the City Council to submit to me names of those individuals whom they consider qualified to sit on the Council and the reasons for their judgment.

It is important that we move promptly to install the new government for the District of Columbia. In order to allow adequate time for careful consideration, I am asking that these recommendations be submitted by Monday, August 21.

NOTE: See also Items 247, 337, 339, 377, 406.

342 Statement by the President Upon Announcing the Appointment of the Members of the Consumer Advisory Council. *August 11, 1967*

EVERY American citizen—rich or poor—is a consumer. And so, in a very special way, the public interest is the consumer interest—the interest of all of us.

In the past 3 years, we have seen the greatest advances in the Nation's history on behalf of the American consumer. At my recommendation, the 89th Congress enacted the first Traffic Safety Act in history. It passed the Tire Safety Act, and the first truth-in-packaging bill. In addition, it enacted legislation to protect our children against dangerous toys and to protect the modest

savings of American wage earners in savings institutions.

Taken together, these laws touch the life of every American citizen, no matter what his income or his station in life.

Now, in the first session of the 90th Congress, I have recommended nine major laws to benefit consumers:

- the truth-in-lending bill
- the Wholesome Meat Act
- the Fire Safety Act
- the Hazardous Products Commission Act

- the Pipeline Safety Act
- the Electric Power Reliability Act
- the Flammable Fabrics Act
- the Land Sales Fraud Act
- the Mutual Fund Reform Act.

The Consumer Advisory Council will add new strength and direction to the great purposes which these laws support. The Council will recommend still further ways in which the Government of all the people can protect all the people.

NOTE: The President's statement was made public as part of a White House announcement which listed the members of the Council, appointed for 2-year terms, and stated that Betty Furness, Special Assistant to the President for Consumer Affairs, would serve as its Executive Secretary.

The Council members are: Bronson C. La Follette, Madison, Wis., Attorney General of Wisconsin, Chairman; Robert J. McEwen, Boston, Mass., associate professor and chairman of the department of economics, Boston College; William J. Pierce, Ann

Arbor, Mich., professor of law and director of the Legislative Research Center, University of Michigan; Corwin D. Edwards, Eugene, Ore., professor of economics, University of Oregon; Richard H. Grant, Portsmouth, N.H., general manager, Pease Air Force Base Federal Credit Union; Gerald A. Lamb, Waterbury, Conn., State treasurer of Connecticut; Louis Stulberg, New York City, president, International Ladies Garment Workers Union; William L. Lanier, Metter, Ga., State Executive Director, Agricultural Stabilization and Conservation Service; Mary L. Bailey (Mrs. Charles W.), Austin, Texas, housewife; Maurine B. Neuberger, Portland, Ore. (currently residing in Washington, D.C.), Chairman, Citizens' Advisory Council on the Status of Women; Mrs. Otrie Taylor, Los Angeles, Calif., neighborhood aid participant for neighborhood aid projects in Watts, Los Angeles; and Louise Gentry, State College, Pa., assistant dean for resident education, Pennsylvania State University.

The organization, duties, and responsibilities of the Consumer Advisory Council are set forth in Executive Order 11349 of May 1, 1967 (3 Weekly Comp. Pres. Docs., p. 688; 32 F.R. 6759; 3 CFR, 1967 Comp., p. 278).

343 Veto of a Bill To Increase Life Insurance Coverage for Government Employees, Officials, and Members of Congress. *August 12, 1967*

To the House of Representatives:

I am compelled to return, without my approval, H.R. 11089—a bill which would cause large increases in life insurance coverage for government employees, officials and Members of Congress.

I am returning this bill because it places too heavy a burden and levies too heavy a charge on the American taxpayer by providing private insurance out of public funds.

I am returning it because it sets an unwise precedent at a critical time in our history. Today, we dare not divert our resources for unnecessary demands, when there are many more crucial needs which urgently require our support.

Life insurance is but one of many fringe benefits a government employee or official

receives. Certainly government life insurance was never intended to meet entirely the needs of an employee or his family. It is meant primarily to supplement his personal coverage.

Nevertheless, we know that the life insurance program must be strengthened and improved. That is why last year I recommended needed changes in insurance benefits to Congress that I considered reasonable and fair.

Congress, however, far exceeded my recommendation. And so last year I was compelled to disapprove the life insurance measure because it threatened to fuel the fires of inflation and to impose an unwarranted burden on the taxpayer.

Again this year hoping for a sound pro-

gram, I recommended another modest measure. In June, I called for a \$13 million program designed to:

- make the insurance system actuarially sound.
- remove an inequity by providing additional coverage.

The bill which finally passed the Congress was subjected only to brief debate. The roll was not called in either House on the passage of this bill. It was passed by voice vote.

If this measure were approved, the cost to the American taxpayer would rise from the \$13 million I recommended to a minimum of \$61 million in the first year and continued commitments for the future.

The bill would substantially increase life insurance coverage at the taxpayer's expense for all government officials and employees:

- For most by 33½ percent—an unnecessary expense.
- For a selected few—the President and Vice President, Cabinet and sub-Cabinet officials, the Members of Congress, Members of the Judiciary, and U.S. Ambassadors, all those in the highest brackets who need it the least—by 100 percent, to \$40,000—an unwarranted expense.

Finally, it would increase the government's contribution for each employee from 33½ percent to 40 percent.

This bill would impose an added burden on the American taxpayer just when we are asking him to pay a 10 percent tax surcharge. And, because our budget is tight, it would syphon funds away from Americans who need our support much more: children, the poor, the elderly—and most important, American fighting men in Vietnam.

In the face of a possible \$29 billion deficit, we must scrutinize every dollar that we spend. To keep the budget within bounds

and to head off the threat of inflation, I pledged in my Economic Message last week that "I will make every possible expenditure reducing—civilian and military—short of jeopardizing the national security and well-being." H.R. 11089 does not meet this rigorous test.

Over the past ten years, the salaries of Federal employees have risen by nearly 75 percent—and their life insurance coverage has risen by the same amount, 75 percent.

Since I have been President, there have been four successive civilian pay increases—and four insurance increases. The total cost of these programs has amounted to more than \$2 billion. And with the new 4.5 percent pay increase which I have proposed for this year, we will be adding almost another half billion dollars to civilian pay and insurance and another half billion dollars for military pay.

Against this background, I can see no justification for the large life insurance increases voted by the Congress.

The 4.5 percent pay proposal I submitted in April is fair and just for Federal personnel. Yet Congress is now considering adding an extra \$1 billion to the Administration pay bill. This is equivalent to a 2 percent tax surcharge; it would come directly out of the pocket of the American taxpayer. We must hold the line—and we must hold that line in the pay bill. This same sense of economy and responsibility must be maintained on all matters.

All of us are dedicated to the well-being of the 3 million Federal employees who serve the Nation's cause. The record of this Administration, and of the past three Congresses, attests to that dedication.

But the President must be concerned with the total public interest. Every taxpayer—including the citizen who is a public servant—

should bear in mind this larger interest. That is why I must return this measure unapproved.

Certainly there are good and acceptable features in the bill now before me.

—It contains a new provision to raise the minimum coverage to \$10,000 for those employees in the lower grades who need protection the most.

—It places the insurance program on a sound actuarial basis.

If the Congress wishes to provide additional coverage over and above my recommendations, ways might be explored to permit direct purchases by the employee with his private funds under current group plans. But the employee who benefits directly—not the taxpayer—should be asked to bear this added cost.

I have asked the Chairman of the Civil Service Commission and the Director of the

Budget to begin working immediately with the appropriate Committees of the Congress toward an acceptable program.

I hope the Congress will take my comments and recommendations into account. I hope the Congress can send to me—this year—a wise, fair, and well-justified bill—a bill that is both responsive to the needs of the Federal employee, and responsible in light of America's economic needs.

I would be proud to sign such a measure.

LYNDON B. JOHNSON

The White House

August 12, 1967

NOTE: A news briefing on the veto was held on the same day at 5 p.m. in the Press Secretary's office at the White House by John W. Macy, Jr., Chairman of the Civil Service Commission, and Joseph A. Califano, Jr., Special Assistant to the President. The text is printed in the *Weekly Compilation of Presidential Documents* (vol. 3, p. 1140).

344 Message to the Congress Transmitting Annual Report on the International Educational and Cultural Exchange Program.

August 14, 1967

To the Congress of the United States:

I am pleased to transmit the Annual Report on the International Educational and Cultural Exchange Program conducted during fiscal year 1966 under the Mutual Educational and Cultural Exchange Act of 1961 (Public Law 87-256, the Fulbright-Hays Act).

This report covers a period which saw the completion of two decades of international educational exchange and the laying of new foundations for its future. The groundwork done this year led eventually to the passage of the International Education Act of 1966, a milestone in our efforts to improve our citizens' knowledge of their world.

Today the United States looks ahead con-

fidently to its relations with the rest of the world. It is a view in which there are great hopes and many hazards. Were our goals no more than materialistic, if we sought no more than power and material abundance, if we gained no more than scientific breakthroughs and military superiorities, ours might soon become a nation spiritually deprived and psychologically estranged from much of the world around us.

But it is to people, not things—to the warmth and generosity of the American people, not to material things, that we turn in order to break the barriers of misunderstanding that forever threaten to divide us from our fellow men. The international exchange of students, teachers, scholars and

leading specialists is one of the nation's most effective means for dispelling ignorance, prejudice and international suspicion.

The educational and cultural exchange program is a relatively small but highly effective instrument in international relations. It enlists the participation of talented individuals who constitute a creative and influential minority in society. Henry Adams said in his *Education*, "The difference is slight to the influence of an author, whether he is read by five hundred readers or by five hundred thousand; if he can select the five hundred, he reaches the five hundred thousand."

The program is not a "crash" one, but is designed, like education itself, to plant and cultivate the seed of understanding, which, having germinated and taken root, quietly flourishes.

Too often today men are tempted to think, in Emerson's phrase, that "things are in the saddle." Educational and cultural exchange reminds us that it is not on things—not on machinery and gadgetry—but on the minds and hearts of men that the human fate depends. Our educational and cultural exchange programs are *person* oriented. They are our American testimonial to the belief that, though mountains cannot meet, people always can.

I commend this report to the thoughtful attention of the Congress.

LYNDON B. JOHNSON

The White House

August 14, 1967

NOTE: The "Annual Report to the Congress on the International Educational and Cultural Exchange Program, Fiscal Year 1966" (115 pp., processed) was published by the Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs, Department of State.

345 Statement by the President Upon Directing Expanded Efforts To Assist Returning Veterans To Find Suitable Employment. *August 14, 1967*

IN THE NEXT 12 months more than three-quarters of a million young men and women will leave the Armed Forces and return to civilian life.

These veterans have served their country well. It is only right that their country serve them as well.

This administration has provided, through expanded veterans benefits, sound and substantial financing for advancing the education of those who have served in the Armed Forces. I have asked this Congress to further strengthen the educational provisions of the new GI bill, and the Congress has responded. However, not all discharged veterans choose to go back to school, and most—including many who do go to school on their return—

will be looking for work. I intend to help them find it.

Over the past year, almost 600,000 veterans reentered civilian life. The majority found work without trouble. But almost 100,000 of these fine Americans had difficulty obtaining employment. They were without work for an average of 9 weeks and received some \$30 million in unemployment compensation.

We are going to do better for our veterans in the coming year.

During the past 4 months the Federal-State public employment service system has operated a pilot program in Pennsylvania which through personalized service to veterans has increased their employability.

I have today directed the Secretary of

Labor, in cooperation with the Secretary of Defense, to extend this activity nationwide in order to assure each returning veteran the greatest help possible in obtaining meaningful, rewarding employment. We can do no less for our Nation's sons and daughters who have done so much for us.

The law now requires that the Federal-State operated public employment service give priority job placement assistance to veterans. I am directing that this assistance be extended beyond the confines of the employment office, and that each and every returning veteran be personally contacted by telephone or by personal visit by a representative from one of the Nation's 2,200 public employment service offices in order to ascertain his or her particular job needs.

Each veteran will be offered individually tailored job finding assistance, employment counseling and testing, and referral to training or any other service which will help him obtain employment promptly.

I have asked to be kept advised on the progress of this effort.

Many efforts are now being made to assure a smooth transition to civilian life for the returning veteran.

The Department of Defense through its "Project Transition" is undertaking, in cooperation with other Government agencies,

to give returning service personnel needed training before discharge so they will be employable in civilian life.

The Labor Department assists veterans in exercising their reemployment rights under the law, and the Veterans Administration handles their educational and home loan benefits.

What we are launching today will supplement these other services to our veterans. This new effort will be advantageous to the Nation as well as richly deserved by those it is designed to help.

Returning veterans are a prime source of needed manpower. They are an answer to increasing labor shortages. Their average age is just over 22 years and more than 80 percent have a high school education or better. Many have acquired job skills in the service which are badly needed by the civilian economy.

This personalized employment assistance will serve the dual purpose of helping to fulfill our obligation to those young men and women who have served us so well while at the same time meeting a national economic need.

NOTE: A report to the President from W. Willard Wirtz, Secretary of Labor, on the veterans employment program was made public by the White House Press Office on January 11, 1968. See *Weekly Compilation of Presidential Documents* (vol. 4, p. 66).

346 Special Message to the Congress on Communications Policy.

August 14, 1967

To the Congress of the United States:

Man's greatest hope for world peace lies in understanding his fellow man. Nations, like individuals, fear that which is strange and unfamiliar. The more we see and hear of those things which are common to all people, the less likely we are to fight over those issues which set us apart.

So the challenge is to communicate.

No technological advance offers a greater opportunity for meeting this challenge than the alliance of space exploration and communications. Since the advent of the communications satellite, the linking of one nation to another is no longer dependent on telephone lines, microwaves or cables under

the sea. Just as man has orbited the earth to explore the universe beyond, we can orbit satellites to send our voices or televise our activities to all peoples of this globe.

Satellite communications has already meant much in terms of human understanding.

—When President Lincoln was assassinated, it took twelve days for the news to reach London. Britons watched and grieved with us at the funeral of John F. Kennedy.

—Europeans watched Pope Paul speak to the United Nations in New York—and Americans saw his pilgrimage to Fatima.

—The peoples of three continents witnessed the meeting of an American President and a Soviet Premier in Glassboro.

The future of this new technology stirs our imagination.

In business and commerce—

—Commercial telephone calls will be carried routinely by satellite to every part of the globe.

—Rapid and universal exchange of data through satellite-linked computers will encourage international commerce.

—Productive machinery can be operated at great distances and business records can be transmitted instantaneously.

In education and health—

—Schools in all lands can be connected by television—so that the children of each nation can see and hear their contemporaries throughout the world.

—The world community of scholars can be brought together across great distances for face-to-face discussions via satellite.

—Global consultations, with voice and pictures, can bring great specialists to the bedsides of patients in every continent.

—The art, culture, history, literature and medical science of all nations can be transmitted by satellite to every nation.

Who can measure the impact of this live, direct contact between nations and their people? Who can assess the value of our newfound ability to witness the history-making events of this age? This much we know: because communications satellites exist, we are already much closer to each other than we have ever been before.

But this new technology—exciting as it is—does not mean that all our surface communications facilities have become obsolete. Indeed, one of the challenges before us is to integrate satellites into a balanced communications system which will meet the needs of a dynamic and expanding world society. *The United States must review its past activities in this field and formulate a national communications policy.*

U.S. ACTIVITIES TO DATE

The Communications Act of 1934 has provided the blueprint for federal involvement in the communications field. That Act, and the Federal Communications Commission it created, have served our national interest well during one-third of a century of rapid communications progress.

The Communications Satellite Act of 1962 established a framework for our nation's participation in satellite communications systems. Congress weighed with care the relative merits of public and private ownership of commercial satellite facilities. The Act authorized creation of the Communications Satellite Corporation (ComSat)—a private corporation with public responsibilities—to establish a commercial satellite system.

In 1964 we joined with 10 other countries in the formation of the International Telecommunications Satellite Consortium

(INTELSAT). 58 nations are now members. Each member contributes investment capital and shares in the use of the system. ComSat, the U.S. representative, is the consortium manager and now contributes 54% of the total investment. All satellites managed by ComSat are owned by INTELSAT—so that commercial satellite communications has from its beginning been a product of international cooperation.

Progress has been rapid. Early Bird was launched in 1965. Now the INTELSAT II series serves both the Atlantic and the Pacific. Twelve ground stations—the vital links for sending and receiving messages—have been constructed over the world. 46 are anticipated by the end of 1969.

Today, just five years after the passage of the Communications Satellite Act and three years after the INTELSAT agreement, developments have exceeded our expectations:

- The synchronous satellite, which rotates with our globe and thus maintains a stationary position in orbit, has been developed well ahead of schedule.
- Those responsible for U.S. international communications—with ownership divided among a number of surface carriers and ComSat—now look forward to an integrated system which will utilize satellite technology.
- Proposals are being discussed for the establishment of a domestic communications satellite—either limited to TV transmission or servicing a variety of domestic communications uses.

Because we have been the leaders in the development and use of satellite communication, other countries are deeply interested in our country's position on the continuation of INTELSAT, and in the importance we assign to international cooperation in the field of satellite communications.

On February 28, 1967, I declared in a

message to Congress:

“Formulation of long range policies concerning the future of satellite communications requires the most detailed and comprehensive study by the executive branch and the Congress. I anticipate that the appropriate committees of Congress will hold hearings to consider these complex issues of public policy. The executive branch will carefully study these hearings as we shape our recommendations.”

A number of important communications issues are presently before the Federal Communications Commission for consideration. Some of them have been discussed in the Senate and House Commerce Committee hearings on the Public Television Act of 1967. ComSat and the State Department have opened discussion of the international questions with our foreign partners and their governments.

In order to place this important policy area in perspective, I want the views of the President to be clear. This message includes a report of the past, a recommendation for the present, and a challenge for the future.

GLOBAL COMMUNICATIONS SYSTEM

Our country is firmly committed to the concept of a global system for commercial communications. The Declaration of Policy and Purpose of the Communications Satellite Act of 1962 set forth Congressional intent:

“The Congress hereby declares that it is the policy of the United States to establish, in conjunction and in cooperation with other countries, as expeditiously as practicable a commercial communications satellite system, as part of an improved global communications network, which will be responsive to public needs and national objectives, which will serve the communications needs of the United States and other countries, and which

will contribute to world peace and understanding."

The INTELSAT Agreement of 1964—to which 58 nations have now adhered—left no doubt as to its purpose. Its preamble expressed the desire:

"—to establish a single global commercial communications satellite system as part of an improved global communications network which will provide expanded telecommunications services to all areas of the world and which will contribute to world peace and understanding."

Of course, these agreements do not preclude the development and operation of satellite systems to meet unique national needs. The United States is developing a defense system—as will others. But INTELSAT members did pledge that commercial communications between nations would be a product of international cooperation.

Today I reaffirm the commitments made in 1962 and 1964. We support the development of a global system of communications satellites to make modern communications available to all nations. A global system eliminates the need for duplication in the space segment of communications facilities, reduces the cost to individual nations, and provides the most efficient use of the electromagnetic frequency spectrum through which these communications must travel.

A global system is particularly important for less developed nations which do not receive the benefits of speedy, direct international communications. Instead, the present system of communications—

- encourages indirect routing through major nations to the developing countries,
- forces the developing nations to remain dependent on larger countries for their links with the rest of the world, and

—makes international communications service to these developing nations more expensive and of lower quality.

A telephone call from Rangoon to Djakarta must still go through Tokyo. A call from Dakar, Senegal to Lagos, Nigeria is routed through Paris and London. A call from American Samoa to Tahiti goes by way of Oakland, California. During the recent Punta del Este conference, I discovered that it usually cost Latin American journalists more than their American colleagues to phone in their stories because most of the calls had to be routed through New York.

Such an archaic system of international communications is no longer necessary. The communications satellite knows no geographic boundary, is dependent on no cable, owes allegiance to no single language or political philosophy. Man now has it within his power to speak directly to his fellow man in all nations.

We support a global system of commercial satellite communications which is available to all nations—large and small, developed and developing—on a non-discriminatory basis.

To have access to a satellite in the sky, a nation must have access to a ground station to transmit and receive its messages. There is a danger that smaller nations, unable to finance or utilize expensive ground stations, may become orphans of this technological advance.

We believe that satellite ground stations should be an essential part of the infrastructure of developing nations. Smaller nations may consider joint planning for a ground station to serve the communications needs of more than one nation in the same geographical area. *We will consider technical assistance that will assist their planning effort.*

Developing nations should be encouraged

to commence construction of an efficient system of ground stations as soon as possible. When other financing is not available, *we will consider financial assistance to emerging nations to build the facilities that will permit them to share in the benefits of a global communications satellite system.*

CONTINUATION OF INTELSAT

The 1964 INTELSAT agreement provides only interim arrangements—subject to renegotiation in 1969. Our representatives to the consortium will soon begin discussions for a permanent arrangement.

We support the continuation of INTELSAT. Each nation or its representative contributes to its expenses and benefits from its revenues in accordance with its anticipated use of the system. The 58 members include representatives from the major nations who traditionally have been most active in international communications. It has been a successful vehicle for international cooperation in the ownership and operation of a complex communications system.

We will urge the continuation of the consortium in 1969. The present arrangements offer a firm foundation on which a permanent structure can be built.

Some nations may feel that the United States has too large a voice in the consortium. As heavy users of international communications, our investment in such an international undertaking is exceptionally large. The early development of satellite technology in the United States and the size of our investment has made it logical that ComSat serve as consortium manager.

We seek no domination of satellite communications to the exclusion of any other nation—or any group of nations. Rather, we welcome increased participation in inter-

national communications by all INTELSAT members. We shall approach the 1969 negotiations determined to seek the best possible permanent organizational framework.

—We will consider ceilings on the voting power of any single nation—including the United States—so that the organization will maintain its international character.

—We will support the creation of a formal assembly of all INTELSAT members—so that all may share in the consideration of policy.

—We favor efforts to make the services of personnel of other nations available to ComSat as it carries out its management responsibilities.

—We will continue the exchange of technical information, share technological advances, and promote a wider distribution of procurement contracts among members of the consortium.

It is our earnest hope that every member nation will join with us in finding an equitable formula for a permanent INTELSAT organization.

DOMESTIC COMMUNICATIONS SATELLITE SYSTEMS

Communications satellites have domestic as well as international applications. Satellites that can beam telephone calls or television programs between New York and Paris can do the same between New York and Los Angeles. Daring proposals have already been made to tap the vast U.S. domestic market.

Our awareness of the social and economic potential of this new technology is met by similar excitement around the globe. Each nation will be making decisions about how domestic communications needs can best be met. The position taken by the United States is particularly important because our

domestic market is so large and our role in international communications is so extensive.

There are important unanswered questions concerning the operation of a domestic system. Assuming these questions are answered favorably, we still must make the decision to move forward with such a system consistent with our international obligations.

The space segment of a communications satellite system is international by its very nature.

- A synchronous satellite occupies a permanent orbital position in the international domain of outer space.

- All satellites radiate electro-magnetic energy potentially capable of interference with other communications systems.

- All satellites use the internationally regulated frequency spectrum.

In view of the international nature of satellite communications and our commitments under the INTELSAT agreement of 1964, we should take no action in the establishment of a domestic system which is incompatible with our support for a global system.

This does not mean that the United States—or any other nation—will give up vital sovereignty over domestic communications. The flow of satellite communications—both domestic and international—is to and from ground stations owned by the individual nation or its representatives. Each country will have to determine for itself whether it wants to use communications satellites for domestic purposes. It must be prepared to bear the expense of such satellite use, just as it will derive any revenues.

It is the space segment—not the ground station—that is of legitimate international concern. How should a nation utilize satellites for domestic communications purposes?

There are several possible choices:

- A nation can lease circuits from an inter-

national INTELSAT satellite.

- It could elect to operate a separate satellite for its own domestic use.

- It could join with neighboring countries to operate a separate satellite.

Logically, this decision should be based on economic grounds—whether domestic requirements can be met most efficiently and economically by a satellite owned by INTELSAT, or by a separate satellite. Present studies indicate that a high volume of domestic traffic is necessary for a separate satellite to offset the cost advantage of sharing the use of an international satellite. The same considerations apply if domestic needs are to be met by a satellite shared by several nations.

If the regional satellite is to carry international traffic as well, INTELSAT—the international communications consortium—has an important stake in the result. Adequate provisions must be made so that any international traffic which is diverted will not jeopardize the economic efficiency of the INTELSAT system or limit its extension to developing countries.

INTELSAT members should adhere to INTELSAT supervision in any use of domestic or regional satellites.

Such supervision should include coordination of design so that all communication by commercial satellite is compatible with the global system. We must not sacrifice our goal of direct communications links among all nations. Domestic and international traffic should be able to flow freely through the entire global system, limited only by the technology itself.

Technical regulation is also necessary so that positions in orbit can be assigned, frequencies can be allocated, and energy from satellites does not interfere with other communications systems.

The alternative to this type of coordina-

tion is international communications anarchy—lack of inter-connections, needless expense, pollution of frequencies, radio interference, and usurpation of orbital spaces. Nations should have no hesitation in choosing the route of international cooperation.

PARTICIPATION BY OTHER NATIONS IN INTELSAT

I urge the Soviet Union and the nations of Eastern Europe to join with the United States and our 57 partners as members of INTELSAT. INTELSAT is not a political organization. It holds no ideological goal except that it is good for nations to communicate efficiently with one another. It seeks no diplomatic advantage. It is quite simply a cooperative undertaking of many nations to finance an international communications system which is of advantage to all.

In 1963, this invitation was extended by the governments of those nations which joined in the creation of INTELSAT. Today, I renew that invitation on behalf of our government.

I have stated many times my hope that our commercial activities with the Soviet Union and Eastern Europe will grow, that our contacts will increase, and that we will emphasize those matters in which our interests are common rather than dwelling on those issues which divide us.

Here is a rare opportunity to join in an activity to bring benefits to all nations and loss to none. Recently the Soviet Union ratified the treaty for the peaceful uses of outer space. Nothing could better symbolize the truth that space belongs to all men, than an international undertaking that permits the free flow of communications. I earnestly hope that the Soviet Union and the nations of

Eastern Europe will join in this historic action.

The Soviet Union is a leader in satellite technology. I am advised that there is no insurmountable technical obstacle to an eventual linking of the Soviet MOLNIYA system with the INTELSAT system. The peoples of the world could rightfully rejoice if our advances in satellite technology were accompanied by this act of global cooperation.

Of course, this participation would require a revision of investment and voting ratios based on Soviet anticipated use of the system. Our representatives in INTELSAT are ready to participate in immediate discussions to make that membership possible.

INTERNATIONAL COMMUNICATIONS OWNERSHIP

Most nations handle their international communications through a "chosen instrument"—generally, a government owned entity. The United States has no chosen instrument. Several record carriers and one voice carrier handle international traffic. In addition, ComSat provides satellite circuits to these carriers.

Our normal instinct is to favor the existence of multiple companies in each commercial field. We believe that competitive pressures—among technologies as well as companies—will usually generate lower prices for the user. Congress recognized in the 1962 Act that ComSat would be required to deal with several international carriers.

Yet, there is a legitimate question as to whether the present division of ownership continues to be in the public interest. Critics argue that:

—International communications are provided by an industry which is regulated in its rates and practices. Price competi-

tion, as we usually use that term, does not exist.

- Divided ownership has resulted in the construction and maintenance of expensive, duplicating communications facilities which increase operating costs and result in higher rates for the user.
- Our nation is in a relatively poor bargaining position on communications matters with foreign counterparts since we do not speak with a single voice.
- Disputes have existed between ComSat and the surface carriers over who should own the ground stations in the international system.
- Defense communications in the future could be subjected to delay.

Several proposals have been advanced which would affect our international communications posture. Legislation has been proposed to permit a merger of one or more of the international carriers. It has been suggested that ComSat should be permitted—in certain circumstances—to contract directly with users other than the international common carriers.

Questions have been raised whether additional communications capacity should be developed through surface cables, utilization of satellites, or other technologies.

A continuation of the review of these issues is desirable.

TASK FORCE ON COMMUNICATION POLICY

I am appointing a Task Force of distinguished government officials to make a comprehensive study of communications policy.

It will examine a number of major questions:

- Are we making the best use of the electro-magnetic frequency spectrum?
- How soon will a domestic satellite system be economically feasible?

—Should a domestic satellite system be general purpose or specialized, and should there be more than one system?

—How will these and other developments affect ComSat and the international communication carriers?

These are complex questions. Many of them are being presently weighed by the Federal Communications Commission. But a long, hard look must also be taken by all parties with responsibility in this area—for the ultimate decisions will work a revolution in the communications system of our nation.

This Task Force will examine our entire international communications posture. It should investigate whether the present division of ownership in our international communications facilities best serves our needs, as well as which technology can meet new communication requirements in the most effective and efficient manner.

The task force may establish working groups of government and non-government experts to study various technical, economic and social questions.

The task force should also determine if the Communications Act of 1934 and the Communications Satellite Act of 1962 require revision. I am asking the task force to report to me from time to time and to make its final report within one year.

GOVERNMENT ORGANIZATION

Our government must be organized to carry out its responsibilities in the communications field. Present authority is widely dispersed. The Federal Communications Commission has heavy responsibilities under the 1934 and 1962 Acts. The President and many agencies have responsibilities under these Acts, various Executive Orders, and as part of their general duties.

Communications is a vital public policy

area—and government organization must reflect that challenge.

I have asked the Bureau of the Budget to make a thorough study of existing governmental organization in the field of communications and to propose needed modifications.

CONCLUSIONS

This message does not create a new communications policy for our nation. Rather it proposes the foundation for that policy.

—It reaffirms our intentions as a partner in INTELSAT.

—It considers the need for modifications in our international communications posture.

—It sets in motion the necessary studies for a better understanding of policy needs in domestic and international communications.

The challenge of this new technology is simple—it is to encourage men to talk to each other rather than fight one another.

Historians may write that the human race survived or faltered because of how well it mastered the technology of this age.

Communications satellites now permit man's greatest gifts—sight, expression, human thoughts and ideas—to travel unfettered to any portion of our globe. The opportunity is within our grasp. We must be prepared to act.

LYNDON B. JOHNSON

The White House

August 14, 1967

NOTE: On the same day the White House made public the membership of the Task Force on Communications Policy. The announcement is printed in the Weekly Compilation of Presidential Documents (vol. 3, p. 1154).

347 Remarks of Welcome at the White House to Chancellor Kiesinger of Germany. *August 15, 1967*

Mr. Chancellor, Mrs. Kiesinger, Mr. Vice Chancellor, distinguished guests, ladies and gentlemen:

Mrs. Johnson and I are delighted, Mr. Chancellor, to welcome you and Mrs. Kiesinger and your distinguished associates who have come with you to the United States. We greet you with the honors and respect due the leader of a great free nation—and with the very warm affection that we feel for close and trusted friends.

The relationship between our peoples has a long history. Our German ancestors helped to build this country of ours. They contributed much of this country's greatness. German poets and scholars, philosophers and artists, scientists and churchmen—whose

work is the common property of all mankind—have truly enriched the national life of America.

In the past two decades, we have worked shoulder to shoulder to build together a prosperous and a free Europe, and a prosperous and a free Germany. And, Mr. Chancellor, together we have been remarkably successful.

Mr. Chancellor, I recall with pleasure our first meeting at Bonn earlier this year. Then, as on earlier visits to your country, I saw a great democratic nation risen from the ruins of war. I saw a free people living in prosperity and dedicated to the cause of freedom. I saw a nation pledged to protect that freedom and pledged to protect that prosperity—and those

of her allies as well—through the alliance which for almost two decades has sheltered us all.

Our meetings here in the White House today and tomorrow will continue our earlier friendly conversations in Bonn. They will give us an opportunity to discuss the important—yes—the numerous problems facing our two countries, facing the alliance, and facing the world.

Yesterday's triumphs can give us heart—and direction—for today's challenges. We have stood together to secure the safety of Europe. Today we stand ready to assure its future. We here in America are ready, as well, to work with you in the great task of ending the artificial division of your country.

Though Europe remains fixed in our attentions, both of us, I know, must be aware of the very urgent responsibilities that face us in other parts of the world.

In Southeast Asia, aggression by terror and warfare tests the proposition that nations have the right to chart their own paths in peace.

Tensions now strain the stability of the Middle East.

And the oldest enemies that mankind knows—poverty, hunger, disease, and ignorance—continue to master vast areas of the world in which we live.

These are problems that constantly press all of us for attention, even beyond the borders of our alliance. They can be ignored only at the peril of our own security. For distance cannot confine them. They threaten to erode the structure of peace throughout the world.

Mr. Chancellor, I look forward with great pleasure to exchanging views and ideas with you. I hope that our talks together will reinforce the already great confidence and co-operation that exists between the American people and the German people.

We are so glad that you are here. We hope that you will enjoy your stay.

NOTE: The President spoke at 11:45 a.m. on the South Lawn at the White House where Chancellor Kurt Georg Kiesinger and Vice Chancellor Willy Brandt were given a formal welcome with full military honors. The Chancellor responded as follows:

Mr. President, Mrs. Johnson, ladies and gentlemen:

Mrs. Kiesinger and I, Vice Chancellor Brandt, and my associates are most cordially grateful to you, Mr. President, for the solemn and warm reception you have been extending to us in this historic place, the official residence of the President of the United States of America.

I come here as the head of government of a country, a friend and ally of the United States of America. Our talks will certainly deal with problems of interest to our two countries, but they will certainly also touch upon those great questions of peace, security, and justice in the world.

In this way—you have pointed that out already—Mr. President, we are going to continue the talks we had in Bonn earlier this year, when you came over—and I may say that the German people were very grateful to you, Mr. President, for this gesture—to participate in the funeral of Konrad Adenauer.

In Bonn, we were agreed that the North Atlantic Alliance, as an instrument of peace, must preserve and will preserve and strengthen peace.

You may be convinced, Mr. President, that the Federal Republic of Germany will, to the best of its capacity and ability, make its contribution. We know, and we have always been clear in our minds, that this alliance is not of an aggressive character, but it serves to safeguard peace.

We regret that conditions existing in the world today make it necessary to maintain huge armies, to maintain strong armaments. But these conditions should not keep us from, on the contrary, they should encourage us to pursue together, a policy of détente in order to settle conflicts, in order to eliminate causes of conflicts, in order to overcome differences between countries, in order to create a climate of trust and confidence which will guarantee lasting peace.

As regards these great objectives, I may say, Mr. President, that I feel in full agreement with yourself.

As regards the Federal Republic of Germany, it will certainly do whatever it can do within its field of activity and responsibility.

In Western Europe we have pursued a policy of reconciliation and cooperation with France, with whom for centuries we have been fighting and warring. We are striving for unity of all European

countries, to the establishment of a Europe which will then be a friend and partner of the United States of America, and which wants to be such a friend and partner of the United States.

As regards Eastern Europe, I have, in my government declaration, extended the hand of reconciliation to these countries as well and we have already made efforts and have begun to pave the way of understanding.

We have established diplomatic relations with Romania, which the Foreign Minister recently visited. We have concluded the trade agreement with Czechoslovakia and we are also striving for friendly and neighborly relations also with Poland and the Soviet Union.

Of course, there is one great problem, one obstacle, still in the way of these efforts and that is the question of the division of our country.

Mr. President, I should like to thank you for the understanding you have been showing for this our problem and for the readiness to help us to find a just solution to this problem. We will never surrender our efforts to attain this objective, but we are also aware, in doing that, in trying to bring about the reunification of Germany, of the responsibility for peace we have also in the world.

This may be a long and thorny way, but we will never yield in our efforts.

Mr. President, I did not come over here to speak to you only of our problems. We are fully aware of the enormous problems, the enormous worries

and concerns with which the United States of America is confronted, and we fully see the heavy burden you have to carry on your shoulders, Mr. President.

But you may be convinced, Mr. President, that what we will be able to do, we will certainly contribute in order, at least a little bit, to mitigate or to take off some of the burden you have to carry—fully aware of the responsibility we have.

Earlier this year, we celebrated in Bonn the 20th anniversary of the initiation of the Marshall Plan in the presence of distinguished guests from the United States of America. The German people know that they owe a great debt of gratitude to the United States of America for the assistance and support they have been receiving at that time and later.

And the German people want to repay at least part of that debt of gratitude by helping to support those young countries in the world which are not yet able to develop themselves to get over their situation of misery, poverty, and distress. We want to pursue that policy, together with the United States of America.

Let me conclude, Mr. President, by saying that we want to strengthen the friendship and to make this friendship with the United States of America closer, bearing in mind the words of your countryman, Emerson: "The only way to have a friend is to be one."

Thank you.

348 Remarks of the President and Chancellor Kiesinger Reporting to the Press on Their Meeting. *August 15, 1967*

THE PRESIDENT. Ladies and gentlemen, the Chancellor and I met alone, except for the presence of interpreters, for about 2 hours.

We discussed the problems that confront our two nations, and we again expressed the strong friendship of our people for the people of Germany.

We reviewed the questions that are familiar to all of you—the strength of the alliance.

We both agreed that we wanted to see that that strength remained unimpaired.

We discussed the deployment of troops and the strength of the commitments of each of our nations. We are both very anxious to maintain those strengths.

We discussed the indications that there would be substantial reductions on the part of Germany, what problems we would have in this country in that regard, and the suggestion that there be reductions here.

No decisions have been made on the part of the German nation, and none have been made here.

We agreed that we would consult fully with each other and with our NATO allies before making any decisions that would alter those strengths, and we would try to come into agreement before any action was taken.

We talked about the nonproliferation treaty that has been the subject of such concern throughout the world for some time.

We discussed the relative economic conditions in our two countries.

We talked about the problems that both leaders face at home and abroad. And I think we had a very constructive, very friendly, and a very productive meeting.

I look forward to every minute that I can spend with the Chancellor and his party.

Secretary Rusk and Mr. Brandt, the Vice Chancellor, were off together talking for some time. In addition to that, the respective members of our staffs met in the Cabinet Room and exchanged viewpoints during the time the Chancellor was in my office.

We have been looking forward to the Chancellor and Mrs. Kiesinger's visit here for some time since we were privileged to be in their home in Bonn. Now that that day has come, we are going to fully enjoy it.

We hope to make it a productive week for both countries.

Mr. Chancellor, we would be glad to have you make any observations.

THE CHANCELLOR. I fully confirm what the President stated about our discussions. We tried to get a clear picture of the situation of our two countries and nations.

I have read in the American papers that I am the sort of a Chancellor who does want to make an independent policy. I want it very strongly indeed. But independence doesn't mean that we leave the path of close cooperation and friendship with the United States.

Despite many rumors, this government is firmly decided to preserve and strengthen

NATO, not only the alliance, but the military integrated system of NATO.

We are convinced that for a foreseeable time we have to stick together. We have to try in common to preserve freedom and peace. Maintaining big armies does not mean that we do not want to have détente and peace.

We have, on our side, decided to help whatever we can, to beware and safeguard peace.

I explained to the President our policy in Europe, our policy towards our Western neighbors, towards France, towards Great Britain, and others.

I tried to explain to him our policy towards our Eastern neighbors, where we are trying to overcome by and by the old ideological and political antagonisms and where we are trying to establish better relations with our Eastern neighbors.

At the same time, of course, we have to try not to lose sight of the German question, the great problem, how we can solve this problem, how we will be able to reunify our people. That process must go hand in hand with this process of détente we are trying to follow in Europe.

Mr. President, I am looking forward to our further discussions. I am quite convinced that this visit will be very, very fruitful for our two nations and will strengthen the bonds of friendship and cooperation between us and our countries.

NOTE: The meeting with reporters was held at 2:32 p.m. in the Rose Garden at the White House.

349 Toasts of the President and Chancellor Kiesinger of Germany.

August 15, 1967

Mr. Chancellor, Mrs. Kiesinger, Mr. Vice Chancellor, Mrs. Wentzel, ladies and gentlemen:

Mrs. Johnson and I welcome you to this house tonight on your first visit as Chancellor.

While preparing this toast, Mr. Chancellor, I asked an aide to find an appropriate phrase from an illustrious German leader. He came back a few minutes later with the following words of Bismarck: "Not by speechifying and counting majorities are the great questions of the time to be solved. . . ." I stopped him right there. It was obvious that neither he nor Bismarck had very much experience in running for office.

Mr. Chancellor, we are so honored and so pleased that we can have your charming daughter as a resident of our Capital. We are very much in your debt for the extremely able service that is rendered to our Government—and to your country—by your most unusual and competent Ambassador, Ambassador Knapstein and his delightful wife.

Mr. Chancellor, our talks today were immensely valuable to the peoples of our two countries. I deeply appreciate your coming here and counseling with me, and the good advice you gave me this morning which was both candid and understanding. This is a means of better and stronger relations between our two countries.

Germany's vitality and eminence among all of the world's democratic nations today is clear to all knowing people. Mr. Chancellor, we feel that your own contribution to its progress has been indispensable. The German people have every right—indeed, an obligation—to be quite proud of the very unusual accomplishments and achievements that have been theirs in recent years.

I should like for you to say to your countrymen that we find both pride and comfort in our friendship with your people. We look forward to our continuing partnership in the great tasks that will face all of us in the months and years ahead.

The goals that we all seek together are

quite clear. There is little difference between them. We all want a stable Europe, a world at peace, and freedom for all men to better the quality of their lives. Charting the paths to those goals is going to be exacting and require the very best that is in all of us. It will test our patience, our tolerance, and our understanding.

Borrowing a quotation from one of your great poets, Goethe, we shall proceed, Mr. Chancellor, "without haste—but without rest."

Mr. Chancellor and Mrs. Kiesinger, we are very happy that you are in our city. Nothing would please us more than to know that you enjoyed your visit here, that you profited and learned something about our people, and that you would like to come back to see us sometime again soon.

So, ladies and gentlemen, those of you who have come here from across the country, we want to tell you how happy we are that you could be with us and get to meet this great leader.

Now we should like to invite you to rise and join me in a toast to the Chancellor of the Federal Republic of Germany.

NOTE: The President spoke at 10:15 p.m. at a dinner in the State Dining Room at the White House. In his opening words he referred to Chancellor and Mrs. Kurt Georg Kiesinger, Vice Chancellor Willy Brandt, and the Chancellor's daughter Mrs. Volkmar Wentzel. As printed this item follows the text released by the White House Press Office.

Chancellor Kiesinger responded as follows:

Mr. President, Mrs. Johnson, Your Excellencies, ladies and gentlemen:

Mrs. Kiesinger and I—I may also here speak on behalf of the Vice Chancellor—are deeply and cordially grateful to you for this festive and beautiful reception you have been extending to us.

You have been giving us the opportunity of seeing many old friends again. I may also say that during the hours we have spent together with you here, Mr. President, we felt very happy, indeed.

Naturally—as you did—Mr. President, I was looking for quotations for my speech. You got to Bismarck and I got to de Tocqueville, who wrote the

history of the United States of America. When he wrote about the history of democracy and discussed Parliament, he ridiculed those people who ran for Parliament.

He said, "They are traveling about in their constituency trying to get the votes of the people, making speeches and canvassing there." He said, "Well, what is it all about?" He stayed at home and he said, "I wait to be elected. I don't do anything." And he was elected.

Well, those were good times, indeed. How long ago that was.

And, of course, when I was looking for quotations, I also came across Goethe. Of course, you always find something suitable with Goethe. I remember these lines he wrote about America when he apostrophized America as the new continent which was much better off than our old continent.

But I wonder, is this still true? When Goethe wrote his lines, the United States of America counted only a few million people. Today, it is the most powerful nation in the world. This country which once was far away from all the quarrels and the conflicts of the world had found its happiness in becoming the home country of the free, self-sufficient, and a proud nation, has become committed, today, all over the globe by the mere power and strength of its existence.

Today this country has to carry the burden of a gigantic responsibility on its shoulders.

No one who is entering this house here, which is the center of decisions, can escape feeling that with all intensity.

Mr. President, you have found very warm, cordial, and encouraging words for us. Let me thank you for that from the bottom of my heart, as the whole German people wants to thank the American people for the saving and salutary help and assistance we have been receiving from this country in very difficult years.

During the long years the friendship between our two countries has stood the test. We agreed today, Mr. President, in our talks that it is our duty to preserve and to strengthen this precious friendship.

We had very frank and friendly talks today, for which I am grateful. I admired the fine clear-sightedness you showed for the situation, for conditions, and for the problems—the feeling of responsibility you showed.

This filled me with hope and confidence for the future of our two countries, for the future of Europe, and for peace and justice in the world.

Mr. President, I wish you and the American people the strength and the good luck which must combine to enable you to fulfill your great mission in the world.

Ladies and gentlemen, will you join me in a toast to the health of the President of the United States.

350 Letter to the President of the Senate and to the Speaker of the House Recommending Legislation To Provide for an Elected School Board in the District of Columbia. *August 16, 1967*

Dear Mr. President: (Dear Mr. Speaker:)

Last Friday, the long-awaited reorganization plan for the District of Columbia became effective—and the Nation's Capital began moving into the world of 20th Century government.

At that moment, we launched a search—which we are pressing now—for the best-qualified chief executive, his assistant and members of the City Council.

With reorganization on the statute books, we must now pursue the great work we have begun with a further step. That step is to modernize the structure of the District's educational system by providing for the

popular election of its school board.

Education is the root of our strength. Across our Nation we are engaged in a massive effort to improve its quality and with it, better the lives of all America's children. In this Capital City, which we are now liberating from ancient machinery of government, we cannot leave the school system burdened by an archaic structure.

The first schools established in this country were run by town meetings. Ever since then the American people have looked on involvement in their school systems as one of the most fundamental exercises of democracy.

The school board is the basic administrative unit for the operation of a school system. It shapes the policy for the educational program of the community's students.

Yet, in the District of Columbia—because of a law passed at the turn of the century—the school board is selected not by the people but by judges sitting on the bench of the Federal District Court. These judges have neither accountability to the community nor responsibility for the operation of the District government.

No other city in the Nation conducts the fundamental business of school board selection in a manner which so isolates the school system from the community it serves.

The judges themselves recognize the anomaly of their roles. They have recently asked to be relieved of this burden which is so far removed from the legitimate duties of the judiciary.

Washington's 150,000 school children and their parents—who now for the first time will be able to know the benefits of modern government—must also be able to exercise one of their most fundamental rights. They must have a voice which can be heard in the operation of their school system.

I believe the wisest method for the District of Columbia would be to permit the election of school board members by the citizens whom the school board serves. Direct election of school boards is the common practice in almost 70 percent of those school systems comparable in size to the District of Columbia's.

To accomplish this needed reform, I recommend legislation to:

- Create an 11-member school board. Eight members will be selected by their neighbors in as many school electoral districts. Three will be elected at large.

—Set the following requirements for board membership:

- Eligibility to vote.
- District residents for at least three years.
- Residents in the school electoral district for at least one year.

—Provide for a four-year term of office for board members, with staggered elections.

The educational system of a modern city can be the gateway to the advancement and enrichment of its children—or it can hobble opportunity and curb growth.

If that system is to succeed it must be a part of community life. The problems of delinquency, crime prevention, and empty summers—and the promise of vocational training, recreation, and full opportunity—must be no less the concern of the educational system than of the community as a whole.

Education can no longer be considered a seasonal experience, when the problems of a modern city know no calendar.

To answer this challenge in our Nation's Capital, the school board I propose will have a broad charter.

—To involve itself deeply in the affairs of the community.

—To coordinate its efforts fully with other agencies of the city's government.

—And, most importantly, to work closely with the new officials of the city government. Among its functions will be to submit its budget estimates to the city's chief executive so that the city's total budget can be shaped to meet its most urgent needs and priorities.

Washington has been fortunate to have dedicated and devoted citizens serve on its school board, despite the outmoded method of their selection. They have served the city's children faithfully and well.

But we must move forward.

The Congress has demonstrated its commitment to good government for the District of Columbia. Many members have submitted specific proposals for the popular election of a school board. While some may differ in detail from the proposal we will forward, all share with me a common hope for the future of the District—which belongs to all the people.

Sincerely,

LYNDON B. JOHNSON

NOTE: This is the text of identical letters addressed to the Honorable Hubert H. Humphrey, President of the Senate, and to the Honorable John W. McCormack, Speaker of the House of Representatives.

A bill embodying the President's proposal was approved by the House of Representatives on September 25. For the President's letter of September 26 to the Chairman of the Senate Committee on the District of Columbia requesting Senate action on the measure, see Item 399.

351 Joint Statement Following Discussions With Chancellor Kiesinger of Germany. *August 16, 1967*

PRESIDENT JOHNSON and Chancellor Kiesinger issued the following joint statement at the conclusion of the visit which Chancellor Kiesinger and Vice Chancellor Willy Brandt made in Washington on August 15-16:

We continued the exchange of views which we began in Bonn on the occasion of the funeral of Konrad Adenauer in April of this year. We are convinced that these regular, frank and far-reaching discussions of the international situation as well as of questions which are of particular concern to our two countries will solidify and strengthen the friendly relationship and trust that exists between us and between our two nations.

Our most important common goal is the maintenance of peace. The North Atlantic Alliance serves this goal. We agree fully that it must continue and indeed it must be strengthened.

We share the view that a policy of relaxation of tensions can help avoid conflicts. Such a policy can remove the causes of existing tensions, can overcome differences and in

this way lead to mutual understanding and trust among peoples. It is only by following such a policy that the division of Europe and the division of Germany can be ended and a just and permanent peace be established in Europe.

We are fully convinced that the unification of Western Europe will mark a significant contribution to world peace and to the welfare of all peoples. This requires continued cooperation and lasting friendship among the nations of Europe. Such a united Europe will be a friend and partner to the United States.

We agree fully that Europe and the United States are dependent upon one another for their security. The planning of the common defense in the years to come must remain in the hands of NATO. We are in complete agreement that a one-sided weakening in the ability of the West to assure its security will not promote the relaxation of tensions, which is desired by both of us. Both countries must sustain their defense efforts.

We are fully in accord that both countries

also bear a responsibility to help other peoples in the world to attain economic growth and prosperity.

We agreed on the great importance of reaching international agreement at the September meeting of the International Monetary Fund in Rio de Janeiro on a meaningful plan to assure adequate additions to international liquidity, as and when needed, by a supplement to existing reserve assets.

We also had a full exchange of views on the general international situation, including the Middle East, Southeast Asia and recent developments in the field of disarmament.

We concluded that personal meetings and consultations between us make a significant contribution to the friendship and mutual understanding of our two countries. We agreed that we would stay in close touch with each other.

352 Remarks Upon Presenting the Vietnam Civilian Service Awards. *August 16, 1967*

Secretary Bundy, Director Marks, Ambassador Gaud, distinguished award winners, ladies and gentlemen:

Ambassador Lodge, we are delighted to have you here with us in the East Room today.

Every evening on television, every day in the newspaper, and every hour by cable, the reports of military action in Vietnam flow in here to us. We Americans know, far more immediately than other generations here at home have ever known before, the face of war abroad.

Yet most of us have seen only one face of this war—the face of combat.

There is also the face of need: of hunger, of sickness, of bewildered ignorance. That face is just as real as the face of combat. Its demands are just as urgent. Answering them will be just as crucial to the outcome in Vietnam.

Today, here in the East Room of the White House, where on other days we have honored the heroism of American fighting men, we have come here to salute six civilian Americans—who also risked their lives for freedom in Vietnam. One whom we honor—Francis Savage—lost his life there.

He, and these brave men and women

beside me on the stage here this afternoon, threatened the enemy exactly as they served the innocent people of Vietnam. They worked to build what the enemy had fought to destroy. They sought to strengthen the hands of the very leaders whom the enemy sought to kill.

Since the first of this year, the Vietcong has killed almost 1,800 civilians—it has wounded another 3,300, and it has kidnapped more than 2,200.

The enemy's purpose is quite clear. It is to deprive South Vietnam of every hamlet or village leader—to deprive them of every teacher and worker—who tries to improve the life of his people. It is to so intimidate the Republic of South Vietnam that at last it will surrender in hopeless desperation and frustration.

It is difficult for most of us to understand this kind of methodical brutality. It is hard for most of us to grasp the meaning of this gangsterism—or to know the courage that it requires to build a nation and to build it under the constant threat of terror.

These men and women, no less than the leaders in the hamlets, know what it is to work within range of a sniper's rifle.

They, and thousands like them, fought a

war against disease and fear and hunger while a war of combat raged about them. They faced the frustrations and heartbreaks that always accompany the building of a decent modern society; they faced danger on hundreds of roads and in thousands of hamlets; and still they built—and taught—healed and helped a people whom history has cruelly served.

While the Vietcong has carried on its campaign of terror, these men and women, and those who served with them

- helped build classrooms for more than a quarter million students; helped supply them with more than 11 million textbooks;
- built and stocked more than 12,000 health stations;
- gave 17 million inoculations against cholera and other diseases;
- treated 200,000 patients every month;
- helped to quadruple the production of fish and double the production of pigs;
- helped to irrigate 100,000 acres of land—four times more than in 1964.

Accomplishing these things has cost a great deal of money—and we and the Government of South Vietnam have provided it. But it has demanded something far more precious than money. It has demanded a passionate devotion to serving humanity, even at the risk of one's own life. It has required a willingness to live in remote villages and provincial capitals; a willingness to be lonely and afraid for long periods of time—to endure disease and deprivation—to seek right answers in an alien culture—to seek order in a land shaken by insurgency.

It requires, in short, a commitment as great as that we have come to expect of our fighting men in uniform in Vietnam.

Because they have lived and worked there, these men and women know that a free, secure, and healthy society will never come

easily to Vietnam. They know there will be suffering and mistakes in the days ahead, as there have been in the past.

And we Americans should understand that that is the pain of progress. For our Nation was not born easily. There were times in those years of the 18th century when it seemed as if we might not be born at all.

During the hard days of the fighting for our independence there were some who would not fight at all. Some people would not pay taxes; some States would not meet their levies of men and money; some men were so devoted to colonial power that they fled abroad.

But there were—and we thank God for this—enough brave men and women to bear the burden; there were enough dedicated men and women to endure year after year of war and suffering; and there were allies who stood with us all through those darkest hours, until we finally prevailed. And after 13 years of war and political strife, we here in America prevailed.

Given that background, we ought not to be astonished that this struggle in Vietnam continues. We ought not to be astonished that that nation, racked by a war of insurgency and beset by its neighbors to the north, has not already emerged, full-blown, as a perfect model of two-party democracy.

Instead we might take heart that in the very midst of that war, only a few months after the enemy threatened to cut that nation in half

- the Vietnamese people elected their own representatives to a Constituent Assembly, notwithstanding all the discouragements and terror that the Communist world could muster;
- that Assembly then wrote a democratic constitution;
- local elections were then held in the villages where security permitted, and

more are planned for the near future;—a national campaign for President and Vice President is now underway; the members of a new Senate will be chosen at the same time, and members of a House of Representatives in the following months.

It is with great pride that I acknowledge that all through that ordeal and painful emerging process a great American leader helped to guide those people with sound and solid advice. And we honor him, too, here today, Ambassador Henry Cabot Lodge.

Today's leaders in Vietnam, Chief of State Thieu and Prime Minister Ky, have given their very solemn pledge that they will support the outcome of fair elections, whoever wins.

I take that pledge most seriously.

In recent months I have conveyed to them—through personal letters, through Ambassador Bunker, Secretary McNamara, General Taylor, and Mr. Clark Clifford—my strong conviction that it is very vital for the elections in Vietnam to be free and to be fair.

We cannot pose impossible standards for a young nation at war. But given our concern and commitment, we can—and we should—expect of that nation every effort to make the elections truly representative of the people's will.

We fight in Vietnam to free that people's will from the grip of Communist terror. We fight so that the people themselves may choose, undaunted, those whom they wish to lead them. We fight to make election—instead of submission—possible.

I believe that those who are dismayed by the progress of the campaign so far should bear at least two things in mind:

In South Vietnam today, there are 11 candidates for President—some military, some civilian. They are free to attack the government, and most of them have done so.

They are free to take their case to the people, and most of them have done so and are doing so at this hour.

In North Vietnam today—North Vietnam—there are no candidates; there are no elections; there are no attacks on the North Vietnam Government, of which I am aware. And it amuses me that they are not even attacked here sometimes.

We also, I think, should take judicial notice, without being critical and without being fearful, that by exercising our rights under the first amendment that we should call to the attention of the people that the folks that are doing the most to keep us from having a fair and free election in Vietnam today are the Vietcong and the North Vietnamese themselves. There may be a time when their terroristic efforts could be brought to the attention of the American people.

Now, this is not to say that the campaign, or the election in the South, will go off without blemish.

This is only to say that an effort is being made, and a strong effort, with our very strong support and endorsement, to conduct an open election in a nation that is under fire from guerrillas and from terrorists and from aggressors and invaders. It is to suggest that this effort that we are making ought to be welcomed and encouraged. It is to invite attention to some of the similarities between the fight for democracy and freedom in Vietnam today, and the tough and confused struggle to build a new nation on our own continent just two centuries ago.

The events in Vietnam do not comprise a neat package. They are the products of a very long and very bitter struggle. They testify not just to man's imperfections, but to his indomitable spirit—that after decades of suffering still seeks freedom, still seeks to have its voice heard, still seeks to prevail

over the voices of terror that surround it.

Now, to those of you who have come here to join me, I want to call to your attention these courageous Americans and ask you to share this honor with me of presenting to them on behalf of their fellow citizens, the highest commendations for their service to their country and for their service to freedom in Vietnam.

NOTE: The President spoke at 1:18 p.m. in the East Room at the White House. In his opening words he referred to William P. Bundy, Assistant Secretary of State for East Asian and Pacific Affairs, Leonard H. Marks, Director of the United States

Information Agency, and William S. Gaud, Administrator of the Agency for International Development. During his remarks he referred to, among others, Henry Cabot Lodge, former U.S. Ambassador to the Republic of Vietnam, Ellsworth Bunker, U.S. Ambassador to the Republic of Vietnam, and to Gen. Maxwell D. Taylor and Clark Clifford, special consultants to the President on Vietnam.

Awards were presented to Frank W. Scotton of the United States Information Agency, Eva Soonhe Kim and Joseph P. O'Neill, Jr. of the Department of State, and Hatcher M. James, Jr., Steven C. Shepley, and Francis S. Savage (posthumous), of the Agency for International Development. Mr. Savage's widow, two children, and mother were present to accept his award.

353 Letter to the Senate Majority Leader Urging Enactment and Funding of Programs for the Cities. *August 16, 1967*

Dear Mike:

It has long been apparent that the health of our nation can be no better than the health of our cities.

Surely not a single American can doubt this any longer, after the tragic events of this summer.

Just two months after I became President—in January 1964—I sent to the Congress a Special Message on Housing and Community Development. In outlining a series of new proposals for the cities of America, I said: "Whether we achieve our goal of a decent home in a decent neighborhood for every American citizen rests, in large measure, on the action we take now."

Shortly thereafter, I called together some of the most brilliant minds, the most talented planners, and the most experienced urban experts in the nation. After exhaustive study, they recommended to me a number of proposals that hold vast promise for the future of every city in this nation. Chief among these proposals was the Model Cities Program—the most coordinated, massive,

and far-reaching attack on urban blight ever proposed to the Congress. This was not just a federal program. It was designed to stimulate local initiative in the private sector, and at the state, county and local level.

I asked Congress to authorize \$2.3 billion for the first six years of this program. Congress reduced that request to \$900 million for 2 years.

This year, I requested full funding of the Model Cities—\$662 million. The House has already cut that request to \$237 million.

I urge that this request be restored in full. We can no longer be satisfied with "business as usual" when the problems are so urgent.

These problems demand the best that an enlightened nation can plan, and the most that an affluent nation can afford.

In addition, the Congress now has before it a number of other programs proposed by the Administration which are concerned entirely or significantly with the urban problems of our nation. These programs, taken together, represent an all-out commitment to the safety and well-being of our cities

and the citizens who live in them:

	<i>Funds Requested— FY 68</i>
<i>Programs</i>	
Crime Control	\$50 million
Firearms Control	
Civil Rights Act of 1967	
Juvenile Delinquency	\$25 million
Economic Opportunity Act	\$2.06 billion
Model Cities	\$662 million
Rent Supplements	\$40 million
Urban Renewal	\$750 million
Urban Mass Transit, ad- vance appropriation	\$230 million
Urban Research	\$20 million
Neighborhood Facilities	\$42 million
Home Rehabilitation	\$15 million
Family Relocation Assist- ance	\$62 million
Rat Extermination	\$20 million
Elementary-Secondary Edu- cation Act	\$1.6 billion
Manpower Development and Training Act	\$439 million
Food Stamps	\$195 million
Child Nutrition and School Lunch Program	\$348 million

Community Health Serv- ices	\$30 million
Mental Health	\$96 million
Mental Retardation	\$25 million
Hospital Modernization (Hill-Burton)	\$50 million
Maternal and Infant Care	\$30 million

All of these programs have been pending before the Congress since the beginning of this session and are included in our January budget.

The task before us is immense. But we have charted a beginning—and we have done so with the help of the best and most experienced minds in the Nation. I believe the enactment and funding of these programs is the first step in making this commitment a reality for the people of America.

Sincerely,

LYNDON B. JOHNSON

[Honorable Mike Mansfield, United States Senate, Washington, D.C.]

NOTE: For statements by the President following legislative action on the model cities program, see Items 370, 467.

With respect to the response by the Congress to the other programs listed in the President's letter, see note to Item 575.

354 Statement by the President: Labor Day.

August 16, 1967

THE HISTORY of the labor movement in America is a lesson in responsibility.

The movement began at a time when workers were treated more as commodities than as human beings, when most men and women were without power to affect the conditions and wages of their working lives, and when the laws offered no protection for collective action.

In another country, or in different hands, the workers' protest against these conditions

might have degenerated into sustained violence. There are always some who glorify violence as the midwife of progress. There are always some who mistakenly equate hatred with determination, force with justice.

But the American labor movement learned early that violence is the sure road to disaster. Labor in this country organized not to destroy, but to demand a part of the American dream. As a result, the American worker

today enjoys a prosperity and a security unknown to any other workingman in the history of the world.

Now, on this 73d Labor Day, America and her labor movement have much to celebrate.

More Americans—76.2 million of us, 1.6 million more than on last Labor Day—are at work than ever before. The unemployment rate, now 3.9 percent, has been below 4 percent during all but one month in the past year and a half. This is the longest period of sustained low unemployment since the early 1950's. Our per capita disposable personal income has reached \$2,717—a 3.6 percent increase in purchasing power over the past year. American workingmen have mightily contributed to, and benefited from, these achievements.

But our work is not done, if we only magnify our own affluence. Years ago labor fought to awaken the social conscience of those who owned and managed property and production. Today our common challenge is to extend the promise of America

to those who are as unfamiliar with it as the railroad workers and coal miners were 70 years ago.

In a land of plenty, one out of every seven persons lives in poverty.

Some are the victims of discrimination because of their race, their religion, their sex, or their age.

We must cure these ills. We must create more jobs, and train the men and women to fill them. We must guarantee the right of every citizen to become the best that there is within him to be.

In the 1930's, the labor movement spoke on behalf of the forgotten many to the privileged few. Today, it must continue to speak—more firmly than ever—on behalf of the disadvantaged minority.

We are committed to the defense of freedom abroad, and we will honor that commitment. But we are also charged with the duty to assure the rights of every American at home. It is a duty we must fulfill.

NOTE: See also Item 376.

355 Memorandum to Secretary Weaver on the Need for a Pilot Program To Stimulate Private Enterprise in Low-Income Housing. *August 17, 1967*

Memorandum for Honorable Robert C. Weaver, Secretary of Housing and Urban Development:

I have just received the attached report from the President's Committee on Urban Housing. In the report, the Committee recommends a pilot program, under existing authority, to stimulate private enterprise to build and manage low-income housing.

I would like you to institute immediately a project of the type recommended by the Commission so that the desirability of a large

scale program along these lines can be determined as soon as possible.

LYNDON B. JOHNSON

NOTE: The pilot program recommended by the Committee involved a modification of the "Turnkey" plan under which local public housing authorities contract with private developers to build a project. Under the "Turnkey" plan the completed project is managed by the housing authority. Under the plan as modified the authority would also let contracts for the management of the property.

The Committee stated its belief that the cost and some of the prejudice against public housing might be reduced as professional management techniques

were brought to bear on the projects. It also believed that the introduction of competing private management techniques might encourage greater flexibility in the management methods of local housing authorities.

The Committee's report, in the form of a memorandum for the President from the Chairman, Edgar F. Kaiser, is printed in full in the *Weekly Compilation of Presidential Documents* (vol. 3, p. 1166).

For the President's statement upon appointing

the Committee, and for a list of its members, see Item 252.

On September 12, 1967, a news briefing was held for reporters on the low-income housing program by Robert C. Weaver, Secretary of Housing and Urban Development, and Joseph A. Califano, Jr., Special Assistant to the President (3 *Weekly Comp. Pres. Docs.*, p. 1278). At the briefing Secretary Weaver reported that he expected to double the number of low-income housing units that would be available during the next 12 months.

356 Toasts of the President and President Houphouet-Boigny of the Ivory Coast. August 17, 1967

Mr. President, Madame Houphouet-Boigny, Mr. Vice President, Secretary Rusk, Secretary Weaver, distinguished Governors, distinguished guests, ladies and gentlemen:

We are honored today to have with us one of the most respected statesmen of our time.

President Houphouet-Boigny is the beloved father of a thriving nation. He is a powerful force for reason in the affairs of his great and diverse continent. His presence here with us today is a very fitting symbol of the strong bonds of friendship and mutual respect which unite his country, the Ivory Coast, and our country, the United States of America.

Mr. President, as you so well know—and as all of those of you here today know—most of mankind is today engaged in a fateful race to turn the restless energies of deprived people to the peaceful works of economic development—rather than to violent self-destruction.

The President and I talked about affairs in his continent. We talked about our problems here in the United States. We looked at the challenges that face us in this hemisphere, in Europe, and in Asia.

We both were in agreement that there was so much to be done, that this is such an exciting period in which to do it, and we just hoped that we would have time to make a

contribution together.

The world doesn't make progress in a straight line. No nation is immune to failure and frustration. Nor does social change happen quickly. It takes patience, and it takes very hard work.

Perhaps it is inevitable that some will lose heart along the way and drop out. Some observers will regard temporary reverses as—and the pressures of the moment will look like—certain defeat. Some will announce morosely that the developing countries are doomed. "Why should we look at other parts of the world, when we have so many problems of our own?" Some will say that the arithmetic of development is really beyond human capacity, after all—particularly in Africa.

To those that tell us that the developing countries are really doomed, to those Casandras, Mr. President, we have a very simple answer. We say to them: Look at the Ivory Coast.

Economists have a rule of thumb that a country needs an annual increase of somewhere around 5 to 6 percent in gross national product in order to generate the forward momentum essential to proper development. Over the past 3 years, the Ivory Coast has averaged not 5 percent, but 9 percent.

Agricultural experts regard 4 percent as a quite respectable growth in food production. But over the past 3 years, the Ivory Coast has averaged not 4 percent, but nearly 8 percent. Industrial output has risen during this period by more than 16 percent per year.

These numbers and these achievements reflect what are the real benchmarks of history. I speak for every American, Mr. President, in applauding your people.

Mr. President, we are grateful to you for expressing to me this morning in most eloquent terms your concern for the developmental process and your feeling of distress that there has not been more unification and coordination among the nations that are able in the world to bring this about through the presentation of a unified program where better progress could be made.

Those of us who are concerned, as you are, with the developmental process have tried to learn from your example. We have tried to isolate the elements that you have put together to produce the economic miracle in your own country.

I think we have done fairly well at identifying the mechanics of this process. We can describe them in mathematical terms, yet it is your astute combination of land, labor, capital, and entrepreneurship that has made this possible.

But, Mr. President, there is one element that we cannot assign numbers to. This is vision.

The Bible tells us that "Where there is no vision, the people perish." You have proved that where there is vision—and where there is leadership—then the people can prosper.

My friends, the capacity to plan and to provide genuine leadership for his people are qualities that distinguish our guest here today. We are mindful of the great good

that he has already done in the service of mankind. We are grateful for his wise counsel. We look forward with great pleasure to a close association with him and with his people in the years ahead.

Above all, we bid him the warmest of welcomes.

I ask those of you who have come from all across this land to join me now in a toast to His Excellency, President Houphouet-Boigny, to Madame Houphouet-Boigny, and to all of the people of the Ivory Coast.

NOTE: The President spoke at 3 p.m. at a luncheon in the State Dining Room at the White House. In his opening words he referred to President Felix Houphouet-Boigny of the Ivory Coast and his wife Marie-Thérèse, Vice President of the United States Hubert H. Humphrey, Secretary of State Dean Rusk, and Secretary of Housing and Urban Development Robert C. Weaver. As printed this item follows the text released by the White House Press Office.

President Houphouet-Boigny responded as follows: *Mr. President, Mrs. Johnson, Mr. Vice President, distinguished Secretaries, Governors, honored guests, ladies and gentlemen:*

Allow me, first of all, to thank you for your very kind invitation and, particularly, for the very moving words that you have just said with regard to myself.

And those words, coming from a man who holds in his hands the destiny of such a great country, those words coming from you, Mr. President, are, indeed, very moving and really reach the very innermost part of my heart and my mind.

This opinion that you have expressed regarding the development of our young country is an opinion which we hold very dear and which we consider most encouraging.

During the meeting we had earlier today, you showed again, Mr. President, the considerable interest that you attach to my country. You showed a true interest and understanding of our present problems.

I am very happy and gratified, indeed, that the Ivory Coast is a country which has listened to and which is appreciated by its friends, particularly by the United States, a country with which we share the greatest and truest ideals of freedom, peace, and progress, and a country with which the ties of cooperation that exist are developing in a most successful and satisfactory manner.

And the fact that our friendship for the democracy of the United States, and the fact that we have the

same concepts and we have the same interests and purposes, explain very well the reasons why at times we have taken certain attitudes and certain positions, showing fully our awareness of the responsibilities of the United States and the very serious problems of your country.

We are happy and gratified, Mr. President, to believe that this visit of ours to your great and magnificent country is going to strengthen evermore the very foundations of the friendship that unite our two nations.

Also, we trust that this visit is going to broaden even more the basis for our cooperation, a basis which I myself want to extend to its fullest measure.

I wanted only to say a few words, Mr. President, but there is something more that I have to add. It is that the representatives of developing countries, such as my own, continue to follow with great interest the considerable efforts and great

sacrifices that you are making in your country in order to bring to the entire world—a world which is torn by fear—a true sense of freedom, a freedom for men, a freedom for mankind, and a freedom for peoples.

We have but limited means at our disposal, but we are intending, as always, to make all the contribution that you can expect from us.

Now, in a concluding note, I want to present to you my most sincere wishes for success in all those undertakings so that all those great efforts and all the sacrifices that you are making will be, indeed, successful and will make it possible to extend throughout the world the kingdom of peace and true human fraternity.

In concluding, may I propose a toast to your own personal health and that of Mrs. Johnson, and to the growing prosperity of the United States.

357 Remarks at a Ceremony in Observance of the Sixth Anniversary of the Alliance for Progress. August 17, 1967

Secretary General Mora, Mr. Vice President, distinguished Ambassadors, ladies and gentlemen, my friends:

It is right that we honor youth tonight as we celebrate the sixth anniversary of the Alliance for Progress.

For the more that we learn about this audacious human experiment we call the *Alianza* the more we know that it is as our late beloved President, John Fitzgerald Kennedy, really envisioned it, a plan for the youth of this hemisphere. If someone asks "Is the Alliance a success?" we may very well answer, "Only our children or our grandchildren will know if it is a success—but we are all going to know if the Alliance is a failure."

So as we meet here this evening, we cannot claim victory for the Alliance. We can only say "so far, so good"—progress is being made, though the shining legacy that we would leave to our young remains to be delivered.

We can point with legitimate pride to the way-steps toward the success of the Alli-

ance—we can point with pride to a better hemisphere for all of our children.

—This has been a year in which no single government in this hemisphere was taken over by force.

—Eleven countries of Latin America equaled, or surpassed, the per capita growth rate of 2.5 percent per year over the last year.

—An ever-increasing proportion of public resources is now being spent each year on education, on community development, on the things that really count, like health and sanitation.

—In the United States, our Congress has given initial approval to an increased level of Alliance spending—to a rate that now exceeds a billion dollars per year.

But for all of that—for all the bold new spirit that springs forth from the dynamic leaders of Latin America, for all the progress toward a Common Market, for all the promises of Punta del Este—nothing of permanence can be accomplished if we look

only to the events of just 1 year.

If what we do is to really last, we must make this commitment to ourselves and to all of Latin America: We will persevere. There is no time limit to our commitment. We are in this fight to stay all the way.

We will persevere when the progress is apparent. We will persevere when the statistics of the progress are not as rosy as we would wish them. We will persevere when we have suffered reverses as we have this afternoon.

We will persevere in our conviction that change can come about peacefully—that, as one of the young essayists here put it, we can make a revolution of sweat rather than a revolution of blood and tears.

We will persevere in our belief that what happens in the Western Hemisphere, what happens in North and South America, will point the way ultimately to a more tranquil, more just, more fruitful world for all people.

The American policy of perseverance in a just cause is not exclusive to Latin America. It applies to our own country, where we have many problems. It applies particularly tonight to Southeast Asia.

If we do persevere at home and abroad,

in this hemisphere and in the other—I believe that the day of justice and freedom for men on this planet can be brought within sight. One of the young essayists here has said it magnificently, and I quote:

“Latin American youth accepts the challenge of the struggle for progress, conscious of its responsibility before history and nation Our voices, shouted from the Andes . . . will echo from the roof of the world: We can do it!”

Yes, you—you and we can do it—and you and we are going to do it.

Thank you, and good night.

NOTE: The President spoke at 7:51 p.m. at the Pan American Union in Washington. In his opening words he referred to José A. Mora, Secretary General of the Organization of American States.

In preparation for the anniversary celebration, an essay contest on the Alliance was sponsored by the Pan American Development Foundation in cooperation with the Agency for International Development, the United States Information Agency, and Alliance for Progress National Committees in member countries. Secondary school students from 15 Latin American nations, writing on the theme “Social and Economic Development—the Challenge to Youth,” competed for 30 first-prize awards of trips to the United States. Winners were present for the President’s remarks in which he quoted from two of the prize-winning essays.

358 The President’s News Conference of *August 18, 1967*

THE PRESIDENT. Good afternoon, ladies and gentlemen. Question?

QUESTIONS

ASSESSMENT OF CURRENT SITUATION IN VIETNAM

[1.] Q. Mr. President, would you give us, please, your current assessment of the situation in Vietnam, and the meaning and

significance of what seems to be a rather obvious lull in the ground war and an equally obvious stepping-up of bombing? More specifically, do you agree with your Army Chief of Staff, General Harold K. Johnson, that 45,000 more troops may be enough to see us through to a solution?

THE PRESIDENT. The people of Vietnam are in the middle of an election campaign to select a President and a Vice President, and about 60 members of their Senate.

In October they will elect a House of Representatives.

From time to time there seems to be—from news reports and operations reports—accelerations, escalations, lulls, and other various types of descriptions of our activities out there.

Our policy in Vietnam is the same: We are there to deter aggression.

We are there to permit the people of South Vietnam to determine for themselves who their leaders should be and what kind of government they should have.

It is remarkable that a young country, fighting a tough war on its own soil, has moved so far, so fast, toward a representative government.

Since we first went to Honolulu, we have urged that steps be taken in this direction. First the Constituent Assembly was elected. Next a constitution was written.

At Guam that constitution was given to us. A pledge was made that they would have free and fair elections—that the people would have a chance to select a President and a Vice President, and members of the Senate.

In the last 2 or 3 days there has been a lull in the air activity. That is because of the weather, and because those who direct our operations there felt it was necessary to restrain themselves and not to carry out certain targets that were available to them.

Our activity in the South is determined a great deal by what the enemy there is willing to do. More and more here of late—we think that because of the losses he has suffered, because of the position in which he finds himself—he is less anxious to engage our troops in combat.

As a consequence, last week we had one of the lowest killed-in-action rates that we have had in several weeks.

That is not to indicate that we won't have

a bad week next week.

But weather, enemy operations, local conditions—all of those determine in some respect what happens between a lull and stepped-up activity.

So far as this Government is concerned, our policy has not changed. It remains the same. We are steadfast in our determination to make our pledges good, to keep our commitments, and to resist the attempt to take over this little country by brute force.

FAIRNESS OF VIETNAMESE ELECTIONS

[2.] Q. Mr. President, in this same context, what do you think accounts for fears being expressed on Capitol Hill, even to the point of a suggestion today that the election possibly be postponed? What do you think accounts for fears up there that maybe the election won't be on the up and up?

THE PRESIDENT. Well, I think that that is to be expected in all elections.

I have participated in a good many. I have never known one where there weren't some who questioned the efficiency of the election, the accuracy of the election, or the wisdom of the voters' expressions.

The date for the election has been set. The nearer you get to that election date, the more charges you will hear concerning the individual candidates, concerning the methods they use, concerning the type of candidate you should select, and concerning anything they can question or criticize.

We do that in this country. You will expect more of it in a young country that is really having its first overall national election under wartime conditions.

We hope that whoever wins, civilian or military leaders, will work together and will cooperate in the essential work that is ahead of them.

We realize that one of our most difficult

periods is going to be between now and the early part of September. We have realized that all along. We have had to adjust a good many things in this country, as long as we have had a Constitution.

During the election period, we have to forgo a good many things. We have to indulge ourselves the luxury of a great many rash statements and criticism. You can expect that to come from South Vietnam. We are going to do all we can.

It is not our election. It is not our government. We are not running things.

It seems to me this is a matter for the Vietnamese themselves.

But to the extent that our counsel is sought, and our advice is followed, we are going to do everything we can to see that we have an orderly, free, and fair election.

Ambassador Bunker, who is one of our most experienced men, tells me that he is hopeful that this will come about.

DOMESTIC PROGRAMS; PROPOSALS FOR THE CITIES

[3.] Q. Mr. President, a number of people are asking more for the cities in the way of social welfare. But how about the things that you have already recommended? For example, sir, yesterday the House passed a social security bill close to your recommendations, but the rest of your domestic programs seemed to be foundering up on the Hill. How do you see this?

THE PRESIDENT. We have almost 100 measures pending in the Congress. About half of them have been passed. At the end of the Congress, in the last few months of any Congress, we try to make a maximum effort to clean up all the bills that are left.

We are very happy at the action that the Ways and Means Committee in the House of Representatives took on our social

security measure. There are some matters that they brought into it that we had hoped they wouldn't. There are some reductions made that we didn't favor.

But generally speaking, our recommendations were carefully considered. The House acted in its judgment and passed by that overwhelming vote yesterday a measure that I think the Senate can improve. I hope it will be sent to the President.

We do have a crime control measure that has been acted upon by the House. We have a civil rights measure. That has been acted upon by the House. We have an Economic Opportunity Act. It is now pending in the House committee.

We have a model cities bill that has been greatly reduced in the House, but I expect the Senate to act on it this week. We have a rent supplements that the House cut out entirely that should be restored in the Senate. We hope that it will.

We have the urban renewal measure—almost a billion dollars, some \$750 million. We have the urban mass transit, the urban research. We have the rat extermination, the education bill—some 15 or 20 measures that are extremely important to the cities.

I have talked to all the leadership about it. I have talked to a good many of the individual Members about them.

I think there is a general belief that the Congress will consider all of these measures and, I believe, pass most of them. We don't expect to get everything that we had recommended. But we believe we will get most of it. We think it is essential.

As I said in my letter to Senator Mansfield,¹ we have housing legislation, we have rent supplements, we have model cities, and we have a good poverty bill. I believe Congress will, in the last few days of this session,

¹ See Item 353.

face up to all of these measures and pass them.

LETTER FROM FAMILY LOSING SON IN VIETNAM

[4.] Q. Mr. President, this week a family that lost a young son in Vietnam sent a letter rejecting your note of sympathy, calling the war senseless.

I would be interested to know how this affects you. Does it upset you? How do you respond to that kind of mail?

THE PRESIDENT. I heard that over the radio. I regret, of course, the feelings of the family. But I can understand the feelings of any parent who has lost a child.

When I heard it, I just wished that it was possible for me to have enough time to sit down and express the gratitude this Nation feels for the service of the young men such as the one who belonged to this home, and perhaps give them a little better explanation of what we were doing there, and why.

PROPOSAL FOR BOMBING PAUSE AFTER
ELECTIONS

[5.] Q. Mr. President, the South Vietnamese Chief of State, General Thieu, has said that if he is elected President in the elections next month he will ask for a bombing pause and another attempt to get peace talks started.

Could you tell us how you feel about a bombing pause after the elections?

THE PRESIDENT. I would be glad to consider and discuss any proposal that would indicate it would lead to productive discussions that might bring about peace in that area of the world.

I am very happy that Chief of State Thieu and Prime Minister Ky indicate that after the election they are hopeful conditions would be such that productive discussions

and negotiations could take place.

The United States is very anxious to meet with the representatives of the North Vietnamese Government at any time, at a mutually agreed place, to try to agree on some plan that will resolve these differences.

We have made a number of proposals ourselves. As of this moment, there has not been communicated to us any change of position any different from that reflected in Ho Chi Minh's letter of several weeks ago.

We would, of course, welcome any indication on the part of the North Vietnamese that they would agree to a cease-fire, that they would agree to negotiations, that they would agree that if we had a bombing pause that they would not take advantage of that pause to increase our men killed in action.

NO STALEMATE IN VIETNAM

[6.] Q. Mr. President, on the basis of that lack of indication from Hanoi, in your opinion, based on your information, have we reached a stalemate in the Vietnam war?

THE PRESIDENT. No. I think there are those who are taking a pretty tough drubbing out there, who would like for our folks to believe there is a stalemate. But I haven't been there. I can't personally say that I have observed all the action that has taken place.

General Westmoreland is there. I have sent General Wheeler there within the month.

General Johnson, the Chief of Staff of our Army, has just returned from there.

General Larsen, a very able general who has been in the II Corps now for 2 years, has just returned from there.²

All of these men think that the stalemate charge is nothing more than propaganda.

² Lt. Gen. Stanley Larsen, former commander, II Corps, Vietnam, held a news briefing on August 25, 1967 (3 Weekly Comp. Pres. Docs., p. 1220).

NEW BOMBING TARGETS NOT A THREAT
TO CHINA

[7.] Q. It will come as no surprise to you, sir, that there are a number of critics of your Vietnam policy inside and outside the press. But the Minneapolis Tribune, for example, has, in the past, rather consistently supported your objectives and policies in Vietnam.

But on Tuesday of this week, its lead editorial calls your permission to bomb within 10 miles of China a dangerous escalation of the bombing which could lead to war with China.

What would your counsel be to this implied anxiety?

THE PRESIDENT. First I would like to make it clear that these air strikes are not intended as any threat to Communist China. They do not, in fact, pose any threat to that country. We believe that Peking knows that the United States does not seek to widen the war in Vietnam.

The evidence has been quite clear, we think, that the strikes were made against the major military staging areas and lines of communication where the enemy has been concentrating his supplies and troops. The transportation routes and bridges over which those troops have been moved against our men have been hit.

We think that these targets are directly related to the enemy's capacity to move materiel into South Vietnam to kill American boys.

The targets to us were clearly identifiable. They were carefully selected. They were all within North Vietnam.

The strikes were made by the most highly trained pilots that we had. They employed every human and every technical precaution to insure that the ordnance fell on target. It did.

While everyone is entitled to his opinion—a good many of them express it—the tougher the going gets, the more difficult it will be for some to stay with us and go all the way, and last it out.

Nevertheless, we believe that if we are going to be there, it is essential to do everything we can to protect the men we have there.

We are going to try to provide the maximum deterrent at the minimum loss.

PROGRAMS FOR THE GHETTOS

[8.] Q. Mr. President, Representative John Conyers says he will introduce legislation to allocate \$30 billion to rebuild the Nation's ghettos. Would you support such a project?

THE PRESIDENT. I think that we have pending before the Congress some 15 or 20 measures to try to bring about an improvement of living conditions in our cities. They involve many hundreds of millions of dollars. The Congress up to now has not seen fit to pass the ones we have requested.

We are going to urge upon them the program that we have recommended. We would be glad to consider any other recommendations that may come, but I think we will be rather fortunate if we can pass the measures that are now pending before the Congress without material reduction in our recommendations.

For instance, the model cities program is designed to improve the ghettos in the cities of the land. We asked the Congress for \$2 billion 300 million. They reduced that to about \$1 billion—almost half.

Then we asked for the funding of \$600 million of that billion for model cities this year. They have cut that \$600 million to \$200 million.

Over the long run—many years ahead—

I am confident that we will make substantial increases in our expenditures in the cities. If we can get the model cities passed this year, if we can get the Kaiser commission's recommendations on the pilot projects for housing passed,³ if we can get good, sound poverty measures, if we can get our rent supplements—the program that has already been thought out and worked out—I would be very pleased.

In the meantime, we have a group in the Housing and Urban Development organization under Secretary Weaver and Secretary Wood—as well as Mr. Kaiser's committee—that has taken a look at every proposal that has been made with a view to determining what merit they hold and how far we can go in embracing them.

FARM PRICES

[9.] Q. Out in Des Moines this week several thousand farmers authorized the leaders of their organization to try to increase farm prices by withholding products from the market. Could you give us your view on the appropriateness and the efficacy of this kind of effort by farmers to increase their prices?

THE PRESIDENT. I think that one of the very serious problems we have in this country—all of the consumers—is trying to insure that the farmers who produce the food we eat and the fibers we wear get a fair price for their products. I do not think they have gotten a fair price over the years—in line with the earnings of the workers in industry.

I talked with some of the farm leaders before the Des Moines meeting. The Secretary of Agriculture brought in some of those leaders.

I think that this Government should give very serious consideration to evolving some kind of a program that will give the farmer an equity of fairness, on the same basis for bargaining for the prices of his product as we have for the workers bargaining for the wages they receive for their labors. Now the particulars of that have not been worked out. I just don't know how we can obtain it.

But I do think that the farmers are on the short end of the stick. I do think that people are leaving the farms by the thousands and going into the cities. I do think that is creating a very serious problem for us.

Today the farmer gets a smaller percentage of the dollar for the food that he produces for us than in any other period. I would very much hope that the administration, at some date in the reasonably near future, could find some legislation that would give to the farmer a means of bargaining reasonably and collectively, as we permit our workers to do.

THE TONKIN GULF RESOLUTION

[10.] Q. Mr. President, the Constitution does not give you the right to carry on this war without permission from Congress. I am sure that you realize that more than anybody. In view of this misunderstanding that has occurred about the Gulf of Tonkin resolution, why don't you clear up this matter with your critics by calling for a new vote in Congress on this matter?

THE PRESIDENT. Sarah,⁴ you don't always clear up your critics that easily. They will be with you before the vote, and they will be with you after the vote. That is the way it is in a democratic society.

³ See Item 355.

⁴ Mrs. Sarah McClendon, representative of several Texas newspapers.

I have given a lot of concern and attention to attempting to get the agreement of the Congress on the course that the Government followed in its commitments abroad.

As a young Senator, I recall very vividly hearing Senator Taft speak on several occasions about President Truman's intervention in Korea. He frequently said, in substance, that while he thought what the President did was right, he did it the wrong way; that he should have consulted the Congress and he should have asked for their opinion.

Now under the Constitution, the Congress has the right to declare—to declare—war. It was never intended that the Congress would fight the war, direct the war, take the bombers off the ground, put them back on it, or ground them. But it has the responsibility to declare the war.

Senator Taft thought that President Truman, before he committed our troops in Korea, should have asked the Congress not necessarily for a declaration but for an opinion—for a resolution.

President Eisenhower followed that policy in several instances, asking the Congress for an opinion. He discussed it with the leaders before he submitted the resolution.

Back in May and June 1964, before the Tonkin Gulf, we considered what we should do in order to keep the Congress informed, to keep them in place, and to keep them in agreement with what our action should be there in case of contingencies. There was very active debate in the Government, as I remember it, back as far as May and June of that year. Then we had the Tonkin Gulf.

After the Tonkin Gulf we responded to the action with appropriate measures in the Tonkin Gulf.

But after that, we felt that we should point out that there was likelihood there would be other instances. We could see the

problem developing in that area. So we asked the leadership of the Congress to come to the White House.

We reviewed with them Senator Taft's statements about Korea, and the actions that President Eisenhower had taken, and asked their judgment about the resolution that would give us the opinion of the Congress.

We were informed that a resolution was thought desirable. So the members of the executive and legislative branches talked about the content of that resolution.

A resolution was drafted. That was reviewed with the leaders on, I believe, August 4, 1964.

I sent a message up to the Congress shortly afterwards and asked for consideration of a resolution. Some of the Members of the Congress felt that they should amend the resolution, even after amendments had already been put into it by Members, to provide that if at any time the Congress felt that the authority delegated in the resolution should be withdrawn, the Congress, without waiting for a recommendation from the President—he might differ with them—could withdraw that authority by just passing a resolution which did not require the President's veto. They could do it by themselves.

That suggestion was made to me by a prominent Senator. I readily accepted.

So the machinery is there any time the Congress desires to withdraw its views on the matter.

We stated then, and we repeat now, we did not think the resolution was necessary to do what we did and what we are doing. But we thought it was desirable. We thought if we were going to ask them to stay the whole route, and if we expected them to be there on the landing, we ought to ask them to be there on the takeoff.

So Secretary Rusk and Secretary McNamara went before the House Foreign Affairs

Committee and the Armed Services Committee. Then they went before the Senate Foreign Relations Committee and the Senate Armed Services Committee. They testified before all four of those committees.

As I said, they accepted some suggestions by the Congressmen and Senators, and amended the resolution. The committees reported the resolution. I believe the Foreign Affairs Committee of the House reported unanimously. The Armed Services Committee went along with it.

On the Foreign Relations Committee of the Senate, I think there was only one vote against it—Senator Morse.⁵ Then it went out to both Chambers for debate.

We had stated our views in the message and in the measure. The leadership, too, expressed our views in some of their statements.

On August 5th, 6th, and 7th, during that period, there was debate, 2 days in the Senate—I believe on the 6th and 7th. I don't recall the dates exactly in the House. But that resolution was sent to us by a vote of over 500 to 2.

I believe that every Congressman and most of the Senators knew what that resolution said. That resolution authorized the President—and expressed the Congress willingness to go along with the President—to do whatever was necessary to deter aggression.

Now we are, as I say, trying to provide a maximum deterrent with a minimum loss. We think we are well within the grounds of our constitutional responsibility. We think we are well within the rights of what the Congress said in its resolution.

The remedy is there if we have acted unwisely or improperly.

It is going to be tougher as it gets along. The longer the fighting lasts, the more sac-

rifice is required in men and materiel; the more dissent, the more difficult it is going to be.

But I don't believe we are acting beyond our constitutional responsibility.

OIL SHALE DEVELOPMENT AND THE MIDDLE EAST CRISIS

[11.] Q. Mr. President, what are your ideas on the need for early processing of the billions of gallons of oil from oil shale in Colorado in the Rocky Mountains in view of the Middle East stoppage of oil shipments?

THE PRESIDENT. The Secretary of the Interior, since the Middle East crisis, has had a very special group in his Department dealing with imports and production matters. His various advisory committees give him counsel as to emergency measures that could be taken—and some that have been taken—to adequately protect our petroleum requirements.

They are reasonably well in hand. We think that there is a great future in the oil shale development. I would doubt that in this immediate crisis that you could expect any great acceleration.

But if at any time our petroleum supply should be threatened more than it is now, the need should become greater. In any event just as the processes develop, you can expect further action in that field. But I don't think it is imminent now.

METHODS OF REDUCING THE DEFICIT

[12.] Q. Sir, earlier this week Budget Director Schultze said the administration hopes to squeeze out between \$1½ billion and \$2 billion from the administrative budget. Could you share with us your thinking as to where some of these cuts might come?

⁵ Senator Wayne Morse of Oregon.

THE PRESIDENT. Yes, from the 15 appropriation bills sent to the Congress—two of which have been passed. We are examining them now. There is little indication that much in the way of savings can come from them.

We have talked to the Chairman of the Appropriations Committee of the House, where they originated, last week. Mr. Mahon was here earlier in the morning. We have pointed out the problem we have. We have urged the leadership to set a target date for getting those appropriation bills to us so they can be examined.

There are about \$61 billion worth of nondefense expenditures in the budget. We would expect to have to get the Congress to reduce many hundreds of millions—perhaps several billions in those appropriations. If the Congress fails to do it, we will have to see where it fails—what bills contain the money we think can be reduced and that have the lowest priority—and then act.

Each department has been instructed to immediately contact the chairmen of its sub-

committees and urge them to take action on the bill. When those reductions are made by the Congress, if they are not sufficient, then the Executive is pledged to make further reductions.

We believe we should try to keep our borrowing within 50 percent of the anticipated deficit. We hope that we can get a tax bill that will raise about \$7 billion-plus. That will amount to about 25 percent of the anticipated deficit.

Then we believe by refusing to pass certain measures that have been proposed—and are pending—by taking action on other measures that the House has reduced, by reducing several billion ourselves, the Congress and the Executive can reduce the anticipated deficit by some 20 or 25 percent in withholdings, deferments, impoundings, and actual cuts.

Merriman Smith, United Press International: Thank you, Mr. President.

NOTE: President Johnson's one hundred and eighth news conference was held in the East Room at the White House at 3:02 p.m. on Friday, August 18, 1967. It was broadcast live on radio and television.

359 Statement by the President Upon Signing Bill Extending the Urban Studies Fellowship Program. *August 19, 1967*

THE BILL I sign today illustrates another aspect of the Federal Government's response to America's urban needs.

During the past few years we have taken a series of steps toward meeting the resource gaps in American cities. We have proposed a model cities program to rehabilitate older cities and to reclaim the opportunity for residential urban life. We have proposed a rent supplement program to meet our promise of a decent home for all Americans. We have proposed a research and development program to provide more sophisticated

techniques for dealing with the problems facing our cities. We must move forward with these commitments.

But all this legislative progress will be barren without the underlying commitment of human resources—people with talent, with advanced training; people equipped to grapple with the physical, social, and economic problems of cities.

At the very time we are being confronted with urgent demands in our cities, we face a severe shortage of persons equipped to deal with the growing complexities of urban

development. This shortage is so critical that it challenges our ability even to maintain past levels of competence, much less to meet the fast-growing demands of today and tomorrow.

In March 1967 there were between 1,500 and 1,700 vacancies for urban planners of various kinds. Today's universities are graduating less than half that number.

Our universities tell us that there are two or three times as many qualified applicants for urban studies programs as the available fellowship programs can support. Many of these applicants, unable to find financial assistance in the urban development field, will be forced to look elsewhere.

Standing alone, this Urban Studies Fellowship program will not close the manpower gap of qualified professionals in urban affairs. But it will help—and it does show the way. Besides directly aiding the recipients of fellowships it will stimulate universities to expand their urban affairs programs, and it will encourage other universities to initiate them. Also it will, hopefully, encourage other fellowship programs, both public and private.

Last year, as a part of our response to urban needs, the Department of Housing and Urban Development took the first step toward meeting this urban manpower short-

age. Ninety-five fellowships for full-time graduate study, in 40 public and private non-profit institutions of higher education, were awarded to students for the 1967-68 academic year. The awards were made by Secretary Weaver upon the recommendation of the Urban Studies Fellowship Advisory Board composed of nine members from universities and national institutions.

Reflecting our needs to cope with the growing complexity of urban problems, awards were made for study in such fields as municipal administration, urban sociology, city and regional planning, urban law, and urban affairs with an emphasis on the social and economic problems of urban development. The thrust of these programs is toward coordinating the social, economic, and physical resources available in solving urban problems.

These are the crucial skills in determining the future of our cities. With the development of talent on a broader scale than ever before possible, our urban problems will, we believe, appear somewhat less formidable. America has the resources, and the will, to solve her urban problems. Increasing our capacity to solve them is the first important step.

NOTE: As enacted, the bill (S. 1762) is Public Law 90-66 (81 Stat. 167).

360 Letter to the President of the Senate and to the Speaker of the House on the Status of the Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands. *August 21, 1967*

Dear Mr. President: (Dear Mr. Speaker:)

The principle of government by consent of the governed is the foundation of democracy.

Today, I urge the Congress to join me in taking a further step toward self-determi-

nation for the 93,000 Micronesian people who live in the Mariana, Caroline and Marshall Islands that comprise the Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands.

The United States administers this trust territory through a 1947 agreement with the

United Nations. Under that responsibility we have encouraged the Micronesians to participate fully in determining their own future and shaping their own free institutions.

I am sure the Congress shares my deep interest in the status and well-being of Micronesia. Congress approved the original trusteeship agreement. It has supported an intensive program to promote the political, economic, social and educational advancement of the islands.

In 1966, the people of the territory, acting through their popularly elected legislature, called upon the President of the United States to create a Commission to consider their future status.

I am happy to honor their request. The Joint Resolution I am submitting would provide for such a Commission.

The Commission will study and assess all of the factors bearing on the future of the trust territory. It will consult with the people of Micronesia. And it will make its recommendations to the President and to the Congress within eight months after its work begins.

I ask the Congress to join with the Executive Branch in this vital undertaking by authorizing the appointment of eight members of the Congress to serve on the Commission, along with eight members and a chairman selected by the President.

Through this Commission, we once again have an opportunity to reaffirm our national commitment to the ideals of democracy and self-determination.

I am attaching a detailed statement of the Secretary of the Interior who, together with the Secretaries of State and Defense, join with me in urging prompt approval of this important resolution.

Sincerely,

LYNDON B. JOHNSON

NOTE: This is the text of identical letters addressed to the Honorable Hubert H. Humphrey, President of the Senate, and to the Honorable John W. McCormack, Speaker of the House of Representatives.

The joint resolution and the statement of the Secretary of the Interior are printed in House Document 159 (90th Cong., 1st sess.). The joint resolution is also printed in the Weekly Compilation of Presidential Documents (vol. 3, p. 1191). Action on the resolution was not completed during the first session of the 90th Congress.

361 Remarks Upon Presenting the Medal of Honor to Gunnery Sgt. Jimmie E. Howard, USMC. *August 21, 1967*

Sergeant Howard and members of the Howard family, Secretary Baird, General Greene, distinguished Members of the Congress, ladies and gentlemen:

Once again, one of America's sons has earned his country's highest award, for heroic leadership on the field of battle.

Gunnery Sergeant Jimmie E. Howard musters now with the bravest of this Nation's brave.

But his own towering valor illuminates a quality which is shared by all of America's men-at-arms, and has always been.

For 200 years, men like Sergeant Howard have stood watch in our defense. Such men as he:

—endured the terrible winter at Valley

Forge that tested our determination to be free;

—preserved our Union in the agony of a

Civil War where brother was fighting
brother a century ago;

—stormed the Normandy beaches, and
fought beside John Kennedy in the Pa-
cific; and

—faced a new aggression in the hills and
the mountains of Korea.

Such men man the outposts and the flight
lines in Vietnam today. The war they fight
is complex and bitter. Its stakes are very
high—but its objectives are very limited: to
stop aggression, to assure a small and strug-
gling nation the chance to chart its own
future in freedom.

To win those objectives, but to keep the
conflict limited, will demand both deter-
mination and restraint.

Our men in Vietnam are fighting this
kind of war with a skill and a devotion that
is unsurpassed in American history.

Sergeant Jimmie Howard is a professional
marine who already wore the Silver Star for
gallantry on his breast, when he embarked
for Vietnam. He carried into a new com-
bat all the qualities that mark the profes-
sional soldier: pride in himself, pride in his
service, pride in his country; skill with arms,
and judgment under fire; but above all, the
readiness to risk his life for his men and for
his mission.

We honor the professionals of our soci-
ety—those who commit their lives to healing
our sick, to educating our young, and to
preserving our rule of law.

We honor no less the men who commit
their lives to defend that work of healing,
and that work of teaching, and that work
of lawgiving. They endure the savage heat
of battle abroad—so that their countrymen
may walk in peace here at home.

Secretary Baird will now read Sergeant
Howard's citation.

[Text of citation read by Under Secretary of the
Navy Baird]

The President of the United States in the
name of The Congress takes pleasure in
presenting the Medal of Honor to

GUNNERY SERGEANT JIMMIE E. HOWARD
UNITED STATES MARINE CORPS

for service as set forth in the following

CITATION:

For conspicuous gallantry and intrepidity
at the risk of his life above and beyond the
call of duty while serving as a Platoon Leader
with Company C, First Reconnaissance Bat-
talion, First Marine Division, in the Repub-
lic of Vietnam. Gunnery Sergeant (then
Staff Sergeant) Howard and his eighteen-
man platoon were occupying an observation
post deep within enemy-controlled territory.
Shortly after midnight on 16 June 1966, a
Viet Cong force of estimated battalion size
approached the Marines' position and
launched a vicious attack with small arms,
automatic weapons, and mortar fire. React-
ing swiftly and fearlessly in the face of the
overwhelming odds, Gunnery Sergeant
Howard skillfully organized his small but
determined force into a tight perimeter de-
fense and calmly moved from position to
position to direct his men's fire. Through-
out the night, during assault after assault,
his courageous example and firm leadership
inspired and motivated his men to withstand
the unrelenting fury of the hostile fire in
the seemingly hopeless situation. He con-
stantly shouted encouragement to his men
and exhibited imagination and resourceful-
ness in directing their return fire. When
fragments of an exploding enemy grenade

wounded him severely and prevented him from moving his legs, he distributed his ammunition to the remaining members of his platoon and proceeded to maintain radio communications and direct air strikes on the enemy with uncanny accuracy. At dawn, despite the fact that five men were killed and all but one wounded, his beleaguered platoon was still in command of its position. When evacuation helicopters approached his position, Gunnery Sergeant Howard warned them away and called for additional air strikes and directed devastating small arms fire and air strikes against enemy automatic weapons positions in order to make the landing zone as secure as possible. Through his extraordinary courage and resolute fighting spirit, Gunnery Sergeant Howard was largely responsible for preventing the loss

of his entire platoon. His valiant leadership and courageous fighting spirit served to inspire the men of his platoon to heroic endeavor in the face of overwhelming odds, and reflect the highest credit upon Gunnery Sergeant Howard, the Marine Corps and the United States Naval Service.

LYNDON B. JOHNSON

NOTE: The President spoke at 12:10 p.m. in the East Room at the White House. In his opening words he referred to Gunnery Sergeant Howard, his wife Theresa and their six children, his mother Mrs. Edythe B. Schneider of Sperry, Iowa, Under Secretary of the Navy Charles F. Baird, and Gen. Wallace M. Greene, Jr., Commandant of the Marine Corps.

An announcement of the presentation, with biographical information on Gunnery Sergeant Howard, is printed in the Weekly Compilation of Presidential Documents (vol. 3, p. 1172).

362 Statement by the President Upon Signing Appropriations Bill for the National Aeronautics and Space Administration.

August 21, 1967

I HAVE today signed a \$4.86 billion authorization for the National Aeronautics and Space Administration for fiscal 1968. This bill—S. 1296—reduces the January budget request by \$234 million.

In addition, the House Appropriations Committee last week, operating within the reduced authorization, reported a NASA appropriations bill of \$4.6 billion, a total reduction of \$517 million below the January budget.

Under other circumstances I would have opposed such a cut. However, conditions have greatly changed since I submitted my January budget request.

I outlined the economic and fiscal realities now facing the Nation in my recent tax message:

—They deal with increased expenditures

and reduced revenues.

—They deal with a threatened deficit that could run as high as \$29 billion.

—And they deal with a 10 percent tax surcharge that the American taxpayer has been asked to bear.

The times demand responsibility from us all.

Every Federal dollar must be scrutinized by the Congress before it is appropriated and by the executive branch before it is spent. And in the process some hard choices must be made. The test is to distinguish between the necessary and the desirable.

To reach our expenditure reduction target will not be easy, for the January budget was lean. By working together with the Congress we will pursue that goal. To attain it, we need not—and dare not—eliminate the

necessary. Our task is to pare the desirable.

The administration and the Congress must face up to these choices in the space program. I recognize—as also must the Congress—that the reduction in funds recommended by the House Appropriations Committee will require the deferral and reduction of some desirable space projects. Yet, in the face of present circumstances, I join with the Congress and accept this reduction.

Let us be clear about one point. These reductions do not signal a lack of confidence in our space venture. Nor do they indicate that we have lessened our resolve to maintain a strong program of space exploration, science, and technology. This was clearly the meaning of the House Appropriations Committee when in its report, it stated:

“The Committee is impressed by the knowledge and dedication of the officials administering this program. The United States has made great strides in space exploration. We have come from behind in less than ten years and have overcome de-

ficiencies in both military and non-military space programs. We have launched 16 manned flights, and all have been successful. NASA has launched more than 200 unmanned flights and achieved dramatic breakthroughs otherwise since Congress declared that we should undertake a broad and expansive space program. The fact that there has been one tragedy to date¹ should not deter the United States from moving forward and making further advancements. Even with budgetary stringencies facing us, this Nation must move forward in space exploration.”

I fully share in this determination.

Because the times have placed more urgent demands upon our resources, we must now moderate our efforts in certain space projects. But our purpose still remains as constant as the heavens we seek to explore: to master the challenge of space.

NOTE: As enacted, the bill (S. 1296) is Public Law 90-67 (81 Stat. 168).

¹ See Item 19.

363 Remarks of Welcome at the White House to the Shah of Iran. *August 22, 1967*

Your Imperial Majesty, distinguished guests, ladies and gentlemen:

It is an honor and a very real pleasure to welcome you again to our country.

When Your Majesty was here in Washington 3 years ago, you spoke of Iran's determination to build “a society in which men may prosper and feel happy and secure, a society in which the benefits of a sound education and a healthy economy are shared not by a few, but by all.” We have admired Iran's steady progress toward that goal which you announced.

The changes in Iran represent very genuine progress. So far as economic growth rates

tell the story of a nation's achievements, Iran's recent record—an annual growth of about 10 percent—is surpassed by very few countries on this earth. In the 5 years since we visited Iran, 6,500 village schools have been established by your new Literacy Corps. In 1962 only 8 percent of your rural population went to elementary schools. Now—a short 5 years later under your leadership—the figure is more than 20 percent and still rising.

Iran has risen to the challenge of new times and new generations—through its land reform—through a drive against illiteracy—through a sharp increase in private invest-

ment—and through so many other vital reforms, all of which you discussed with me in your planning when I was privileged to visit there.

Iran is a different country now from the one that we saw in 1962. The difference has sprung from Your Majesty's dedicated, inspirational, and progressive leadership.

I see another difference—another lesson that your leadership provides for all who prize real progress. Because you are winning progress without violence and without any bloodshed—a lesson that others still have to learn.

To destroy the existing order—to dismiss the past without a plan for the present and the future—that is never enough.

We Americans challenge every propagandist and every demagogue—whether he speaks on the radio waves of the world or in the streets of our own cities—to demonstrate his commitment to progress with the facts and the figures. The people of the world cry out for progress—not for propaganda. They hunger for results—knowing they cannot eat rhetoric.

Progress in Iran has not meant discarding the past; it has meant keeping the best of the past and forging it to a brighter future.

Your Majesty, we understand this kind of progress. We are proud to have seen you make it and we are pleased that we could help along the way. But the accomplishments are yours.

You and your people we think have sown good seed. I hope to hear a great deal more about that harvest after we go to the office. I hope also to draw on Your Majesty's very wise counsel—so valuable to me in the past—as we discuss our common interest in building peace and security, particularly in the Middle East.

Mrs. Johnson and I are very pleased that you are with us here again. We hope to

return now—with special warmth—the welcome that you have so generously extended to many Americans over many years, and particularly to us on our cherished visit to Tehran 5 years ago.

Thank you.

NOTE: The President spoke at 5:08 p.m. on the South Lawn at the White House where Shah Mohammad Reza Pahlavi was given a formal welcome with full military honors. His Imperial Majesty responded as follows:

Mr. President, I am overwhelmed by the warmth of your words and your welcome.

Since the day I first met with you and Mrs. Johnson, I developed a very special sense of admiration for your personality, your ideals, and what you stood for.

I can say now that it is always a source of inspiration to see someone defending his principles and his ideals with such reserve, with such steadfastness, which creates confidence in the present and in the future.

I would like to thank you for the very kind words you have had towards my country; what we have realized. We believe that what we do is for the sake of the majority of our people.

That is why the economic steps are taken. They present results of this magnitude, because this is done not for a few but for the majority of the people.

Our fight is against illiteracy; our fight is against disease; and now in the future we hope to be able to contribute to the fight that the whole world—the community of nations—must undertake against these same evils and shortcomings—illiteracy, shortage of food, and diseases.

In many ways we have always found inspiration in your great country, the ideals that you have always represented, the humanitarian aspects of the characteristics of your people, of your policies, the wonderful principles of freedom, equity, that you have always upheld with valor and dignity.

We also try to inspire ourselves in the betterment of the life of the individual. We put a great deal of importance to the betterment of the life of the society—but a society in which the individual counts.

We shall try always to inspire ourselves by the wonderful technology of your people—your breakthroughs in agriculture, science, and technique.

We shall always remember that your country and your office, yourself, Mr. President, have stood for truth, for the principles of justice and international equity—but also for the special friendship that you have always had for us.

The only way we can repay you this debt of gratitude is to remain true to the same principles

for which you are standing and defending.

I would like to thank you once more for affording me the opportunity of seeing you again and visiting your wonderful country. I am sure that

during our exchange of views we can discuss so many things of interest to both of our countries and maybe to the world at large.

Thank you again, Mr. President.

364 Toasts of the President and His Imperial Majesty Mohammad Reza Pahlavi, Shah of Iran. August 22, 1967

Your Imperial Majesty, ladies and gentlemen:

The poet Emerson has said that, "The ornament of a house is the friends who frequent it."

Our one regret this evening is that our warm friend and honored guest has not been able to ornament the occasion more—by bringing along his very beautiful and charming Empress. We miss her very much—because this administration champions beauty in all its forms.

His Majesty's coronation will take place in October, after a reign of nearly 26 years. This gathering of friends offers you heartfelt good wishes and prayers for still brighter success.

To them I must add special congratulations on Your Majesty's superb sense of timing. You have had the foresight to schedule your coronation when your polls are up.

You also have the satisfaction of looking back on a most impressive record of very progressive leadership. You have taught Iran's people that they have in their own strength and imagination the power to solve their own problems and to realize their own dreams.

When I visited Iran with Mrs. Johnson—just 5 years ago next week—the land reform program, that we discussed until late in the evening, was just beginning. Tonight, 50 percent of Iran's rural families farm their own land. Some 7,000 or more rural cooperatives have already been established—and

more than 800 extension corpsmen are out helping the farmers of that country to acquire new agricultural skills.

This promise of new progress and dignity beckons all the Middle East. The people of that region have just suffered a very great shock. But that shock should and must not obscure the vision of what they can do to solve their problems constructively, peacefully—by working together, by working with their neighbors.

We stand ready tonight, as before, to help those who ask our help—to strengthen the independence of all who seek it in purposeful partnership. Now, as always, America seeks no domination—by force of arms, by influence of wealth, by stealth or subversion.

We seek to build in brotherhood. We want to continue giving and learning—as we will again when Iranian and American scientists soon begin to study ways to exploit Iran's water resources, and to employ the exciting new technology of desalting. Our cooperation will continue to grow in this and many other ways.

We take great pride in having with us this evening Mr. David Lilienthal who has done so much to plan and develop our own land and who is now giving his talented energies to your country.

But turning the dreams we all share into a shared reality asks a long journey of both our countries. We take heart from the knowledge that the people of Iran, under Your Majesty's leadership, have the fortitude and vision to continue their advance, and to so

inspire all who would follow in hope.

Ladies and gentlemen, I can conclude this statement in no better way than to recall for you the words of a great Persian poet:

"Dig deep and sow good seed;
Repay the debt you owe your country's soil;
You need not then be beholden to any man."

Our distinguished guest this evening has truly sown good seed. I ask those of you who have come from throughout our land to join me in a toast to the architect of Iran's future, the distinguished sovereign and leader of the Iranian people, and our most valued and trusted friend, His Imperial Majesty, the Shah of Iran.

NOTE: The President spoke at 10 p.m. at a formal dinner in the State Dining Room at the White House. During his remarks he referred to David E. Lilienthal, chairman of the Development and Resources Corporation, which is engaged in economic planning in approximately 20 countries throughout the world. As printed this item follows the text released by the White House Press Office.

His Imperial Majesty responded as follows:

Mr. President, Mrs. Johnson, ladies and gentlemen:

This is the second time today, Mr. President, that you have showered upon myself, my country, and my countrymen such words of encouragement and friendship.

I want to thank you from the bottom of my heart that you think this way and appreciate what we are trying to do in our part of the world.

As I said before, we have been inspired in so many ways by the Americans—in your humanitarian approach to the problems of life, in the wonderful achievements of your people in every domain, also in many of your great leaders.

If I may say so, the pleasure of meeting you, Mr. President, and Mrs. Johnson, 5 years ago, coincides, incidentally, with the reforms that we have undertaken in our recent history.

What you represent, the morality that you represent—and trying to really uphold it in our world—the confidence that you have created that your word can be taken as the word of a man and a judgment, and so many other aspects of your great qualities are a real contribution to all of us.

So I will always take this as a nice augury that your coming to our country coincided with our great effort to bring our country—even after 2,500

years of history—into the modern age.

We are proud of our history, but we cannot live only with the memory of our past glories. We have to live with the present and live with not only decency, but with pride and, if possible, with plenty, with happiness, and with joy.

Again, in that respect, your people and your countrymen have done a great deal and can still do a great deal.

I remember the first time I met and talked with this distinguished gentleman of yours, Mr. David Lilienthal. He spoke with me and talked about things in my own country that I personally didn't know about.

Because of his knowledge, because of his experience, he told me what could be done in one of the regions of my country, the fantastic prospects of development, the happiness that could be brought in that part of my country—in that part of the world.

The plan has been initiated. We have made some progress. But this progress cannot be as rapid as we wish it to be. We cannot wait a long time neither for ourselves nor really the world—we cannot wait a long time before seeing all its resources tapped, developed, and put at the disposal of the human race.

Again, I think in that field, in the promotion of agriculture, in the promotion of food production, speaking of so many other aspects and possibilities that exist in my country, you can do a lot by showing us how to best develop a land.

You have done it in your own country. Not many people can come and see it for themselves. But if you can do the same things in our part of the world, many more people could succeed and try maybe to do the same.

The interest that you show in the desalinization of sea water is something of the utmost importance. There must be an early solution to the economic way of doing it. I am sure that before long your scientists will come up with the answers.

Then, again, our region of the world may be one of the most interesting cases for experiencing this wonderful technological breakthrough. Water is the essence of life. Today it is needed more than ever.

I could continue on for a very, very long time praising the unselfish, humanitarian contribution of the American people in our country. That is the cause of this deep friendship existing between us—the trust that we have in you and, I hope, the trust that you have in us.

I think we are both trying to serve the same cause—the cause of human dignity, freedom, decency—in what we do. That is why it is also, again, a great pleasure for me to be once more in your beautiful land, among such good friends, and

especially of having this opportunity of seeing you again, Mr. President, and having the friendly talks that we have had, as usual.

I would like to thank you, also, for the words that you have had for my wife, who had to stay back home. She has a lot to do, because, for the first time, I think, a woman will be crowned in our country.

Lately women have attained many rights—first, franchise, then equality with men, and now even equality in wearing a crown. We are considering now a change also in our Constitution to automatically appoint the mother of the Crown Prince as the Regent of the Realm, if anything happens to the King before the Crown Prince comes of age or is 20 years old.

This is to show that we are recognizing the value and the qualities of the women in our coun-

try. I think that really we all—everywhere—owe so much to the women of our country. I am not going very far. I just want to mention what Mrs. Johnson is doing in this country and the great contribution that she is making for the betterment of so many things.

As for the future, I can only say that I hope that with God's help and will we shall make the contribution that we can for the betterment of our own people and also in the humble way that we can for all the people in our world, and especially cherish the unselfish, solid, reliable friendship binding our two people together.

It is with the hope of good health to you, Mr. President, and to Mrs. Johnson, success in your work, the welfare of your Government and your people that I would like to propose a toast to the President of the United States of America.

365 Remarks to Participants in the 12th Annual Program of the Council of International Programs for Youth Leaders and Social Workers. *August 23, 1967*

Dr. Ollendorff, ladies and gentlemen:

First, I express my pleasure at your being able to come to the White House this morning. I want to welcome you here. I am very sorry we cannot do it with better weather.

I wish that every person who is afflicted by doubt or worry or pessimism about the future of this world in which we live could come in contact with you, meet you, and learn something about your hopes, and your dreams, and particularly your work.

For 10 years now, Dr. Ollendorff and the Council for International Programs have brought more than 500 young leaders, teachers, and social workers to our country.

This is much more than just an effort of good will. We believe that it is very definitely a program of good works. We believe this idea is bearing fruit in our country.

We ourselves are just getting underway this fall with another experiment. It is one called Volunteers to America. It is an experiment which some people like to call the

Exchange Peace Corps.

I first asked for it about 2 years ago. Last week 64 carefully selected young people from 12 countries completed their training and headed for assignments in American cities.

So for the next year those people will be serving in American schools as leaders, as teachers, and as social workers.

One young leader from Finland put it this way: "You have built a bridge across the ocean. That is something that no engineer has ever been able to do."

So I want to see the traffic getting heavier on that bridge. I should like very much to see it coming from both directions.

We in the United States are a big power and a powerful nation. We trace our growth directly to the work of many peoples from many lands.

I remember Mrs. Johnson—when in our younger days in the Congress—was addressing letters to the voters in our district. She was amazed that there in a little central

Texas district we should have people from some 15 different ancestries from all parts of the world—and that they had come there and resided in central Texas.

So we know really what great results cooperation between diverse people can bring. We know we are going to have to live with them. We know we are going to be living together.

So we had better get with it and get to understand each other—trying to ease the tensions and moderate the differences—and try to understand and be better understood.

I was reminded again only last week when I talked to Ambassador Foster, who is trying to negotiate a nonproliferation agreement—and it will probably be tabled very shortly in Geneva—of just how the world is growing smaller and really how much more dangerous is the age in which we are living than those that preceded us.

Many years ago Roger Williams had this to say:

“There goes many a ship to sea—with many hundred souls in one ship, whose weal and woe is common. And this is a true picture of a commonwealth, a human combina-

tion or society.”

So more and more today, we on this planet are like that crowded ship which journeyed out to sea. We all very much and urgently need navigators. We need a steady star to steer by.

So I am particularly pleased that young leaders like you and the idea of international cooperation which you serve seem to me to be giving us both the navigators and the steady star to steer by.

We thank you for your interest and for your dedication. We are glad you are here. We hope that you profit from your experience. We know we will profit from having known you.

Thank you very much.

NOTE: The President spoke at 11:40 a.m. in the State Dining Room at the White House. In his opening words he referred to Dr. Henry B. Ollendorff, Director of the Council of International Programs for Youth Leaders and Social Workers, Inc. During his remarks the President referred to, among others, William C. Foster, Director of the United States Arms Control and Disarmament Agency.

The group consisted of 170 delegates from 52 countries who came to the United States under the joint sponsorship of the Council and the Department of State to work for 4 months in social welfare and youth activities.

366 Joint Statement Following Discussions With the Shah of Iran.

August 23, 1967

THE SHAHANSHAH and the President had very cordial and useful discussions covering a broad range of topics of common interest. Their talks reflected the long-standing friendly relations that exist between Iran and the United States. The President congratulated the Shahanshah on the progress of Iran's program of economic development and social reform and reviewed with the Shahanshah the scope for continued United States Government collaboration with Iran's development efforts. The two

leaders also had a useful exchange of views on world food, water, and illiteracy problems and the efforts of both countries to enrich the lives of their peoples.

In this connection, the Shahanshah and the President reviewed preliminary plans for cooperation in studying the development of water resources in certain areas of Iran. A U.S. team of water experts will join an Iranian team to begin the study this fall. President Johnson assured His Majesty that the United States Government stands ready

to share the technology it has developed so that adequate water may be available to meet Iran's needs.

The Shahanshah and the President reviewed the world situation and particularly the situation in the Middle East, and they agreed that a solution to the current tensions in the area should be sought in strict compliance with the principles of the United Nations Charter. The two leaders agreed to remain in close touch about the Middle East situation. The Shahanshah also reaffirmed Iran's determination to sustain adequate modern defense forces to ensure Iran's national security.

The Shahanshah and the President also discussed problems of building peace in other

parts of the world and the President informed the Shahanshah about efforts of the United States to achieve peace in Vietnam. The Shahanshah and the President agreed on the importance of avoiding a widening of hostilities and the need to continue the search for a settlement on the basis of the 1954 Geneva Agreements which would also respect the rights of the Vietnamese people to determine their own destiny in freedom.

The Shahanshah expressed his thanks for the warm and friendly reception accorded him. Both the Shahanshah and the President agreed that the considerations which have motivated Iranian and American cooperation are today more pertinent than ever.

367 Statement by the President on the Eighteen-Nation Disarmament Committee's Draft Treaty on Nuclear Nonproliferation.

August 24, 1967

TODAY at Geneva the United States and the Soviet Union as Cochairmen of the Eighteen-Nation Disarmament Committee are submitting to the Committee a draft treaty to stop the spread of nuclear weapons.

For more than 20 years, the world has watched with growing fear as nuclear weapons have spread.

Since 1945, five nations have come into possession of these dreadful weapons. We believe now—as we did then—that even one such nation is too many. But the issue now is not whether some have nuclear weapons while others do not. The issue is whether the nations will agree to prevent a bad situation from becoming worse.

Today, for the first time, we have within our reach an instrument which permits us to make a choice.

The submission of a draft treaty brings us to the final and most critical stage of this

effort. The draft will be available for consideration by all governments, and for negotiation by the Conference.

The treaty must reconcile the interests of nations with our interest as a community of human beings on a small planet. The treaty must be responsive to the needs and problems of all the nations of the world—great and small, aligned and nonaligned, nuclear and nonnuclear.

It must add to the security of all.

It must encourage the development and use of nuclear energy for peaceful purposes.

It must provide adequate protection against the corruption of the peaceful atom to its use for weapons of war.

I am convinced that we are today offering an instrument that will meet these requirements.

If we now go forward to completion of a worldwide agreement, we will pass on a

great gift to those who follow us.

We shall demonstrate that—despite all his problems, quarrels, and distractions—man still retains a capacity to design his fate, rather than be engulfed by it.

Failure to complete our work will be interpreted by our children and grandchildren as a betrayal of conscience, in a world that needs all of its resources and talents to serve life, not death.

I have given instructions to the United

States representative, William C. Foster, which reflect our determination to ensure that a fair and effective treaty is concluded.

The Eighteen-Nation Committee on Disarmament now has before it the opportunity to make a cardinal contribution to man's safety and peace.

NOTE: The signing ceremony for the Treaty on Nonproliferation of Nuclear Weapons was held on July 1, 1968. For the President's remarks on that occasion, see the Weekly Compilation of Presidential Documents (vol. 4, p. 1042).

368 Message on the Death of Henry J. Kaiser.

August 25, 1967

THE ENTIRE NATION joins with you in mourning the loss of a great American. Henry J. Kaiser embodied in his own career all that is best in our country's traditions.

His own energy, imagination, and determination gave him greatness—and he used that greatness unflinching for the betterment of his country and his fellow man.

May the memory of his long and creative life—and the knowledge of his lasting achievements—help to console you and your family in this sad moment of loss.

LYNDON B. JOHNSON

[Mr. Edgar F. Kaiser, Honolulu, Hawaii]

NOTE: In a press briefing on August 25, George E. Christian, Special Assistant to the President, stated that the President, in his naval service during World War II, had been close to and familiar with Mr. Kaiser's shipbuilding efforts, had always held him in great esteem, and had particularly admired his programs for the employees in his companies.

The text of the message was posted on the bulletin board in the Press Room at the White House on August 25. It was not made public in the form of a White House press release.

369 Letter to the President of the Senate and to the Speaker of the House Transmitting Final Report on Earthquake Recovery Assistance to Alaska. *August 28, 1967*

Dear Mr. President: (Dear Mr. Speaker:)

I am pleased to transmit the sixth and final semi-annual report of Federal agency activity under the authority of Public Law 88-451 to assist Alaska to recover from the earthquake which she suffered in 1964.

On March 27, 1964, a crippling earthquake struck the State of Alaska. At the request of the Governor, I declared a "major

disaster" enabling the Federal Government to provide vitally needed assistance. Congress also responded to the emergency by passing Public Law 88-451, which brought additional Federal aid to the disaster area.

Now, three years later, we can look back with pride upon our accomplishments. This report, submitted as the program ends, shows the scope of the Federal Government's

contribution to the rebuilding of Alaska.

Under this law, some \$56 million was provided to Alaska for earthquake relief.

—The Department of Housing and Urban Development purchased over \$15 million in special Alaskan bonds to finance reconstruction activities.

—More than \$9 million was distributed for urban renewal projects in Kodiak, Anchorage, Seward, Valdez, and Seldovia. Further grants in this program of almost \$16 million have been approved.

—The Small Business Administration has approved 504 home loans to repair or replace damaged dwellings, totaling more than \$10 million.

—More than \$5 million in Federal money was used to finance 23 highway reconstruction projects.

These particular programs, carried out by authority of P.L. 88-451, represent only part of the Federal effort in rebuilding Alaska. In all, Federal recovery assistance totaled more than \$350 million.

—Over \$51 million from the President's Disaster Fund was used to repair public buildings, streets, bridges, schools and vital utilities.

—The Small Business Administration made low-risk loans of \$82 million to small businesses and private homeowners.

—The Bureau of Public Roads, the De-

partment of the Interior and the Department of Housing and Urban Development expended many millions more under their own authorities.

The effects of this Federal Assistance are evident in statistics on employment, personal income, investments, and bank deposits. All show substantial gains and, in some cases, have reached all-time highs.

But just last week another disaster struck our largest State. Thousands of people have been driven from their homes by the floodwaters of the Chena and Tanana rivers.

Once again I have declared a major disaster to provide immediate Federal assistance. Federal facilities have been mobilized to accomplish a gigantic recovery program before the arrival of winter weather.

The spirit, skill, and unlimited energy of our Alaskan citizens promise that this new recovery effort will be as successful as the last one.

This year Alaska celebrates its centennial. Its citizens are fully justified in their slogan, "North to the Future."

I commend this report to your attention.

Sincerely,

LYNDON B. JOHNSON

NOTE: This is the text of identical letters addressed to the Honorable Hubert H. Humphrey, President of the Senate, and to the Honorable John W. McCormack, Speaker of the House of Representatives.

The 12-page processed report is entitled "Sixth Semiannual Report to the Congress, Public Law 88-451, '1964 Amendments to the Alaska Omnibus Act'."

370 Statement by the President Following Senate Committee Action on the Model Cities and Rent Supplement Programs.

August 28, 1967

TODAY, the Senate Appropriations Committee reaffirmed our pledge to bring new hope and progress to the Nation's cities.

The Committee voted the full \$40 million I requested for rent supplements.

It voted \$537 million out of the \$662 mil-

lion I requested for the model cities program—including the full \$400 million we sought for model cities supplementary grants.

It voted \$15 million of the \$20 million we requested to advance urban research and technology.

Although these amounts fall somewhat short of my request, they will go far towards solving the critical problems of our cities.

All Americans owe their thanks to Senator Magnuson and to the able and progressive members of the Senate Committee.

I hope the Congress will follow the course set by these leaders and approve full funding for the model cities and rent supplement programs.

If ever there were a time for action, the time is now. I call upon the Congress for speedy consideration and passage of the \$7 billion in vitally needed city programs—the most comprehensive program for urban America presented to a Congress of the United States. These laws will benefit every city dweller and enrich the lives of all Americans.

NOTE: In his statement the President referred to Senator Warren G. Magnuson of Washington, member of the Senate Appropriations Committee.

Funds for the programs were provided by the Independent Offices and Department of Housing and Urban Development Appropriation Act, 1968. For the President's statement upon signing the measure, see Item 467.

371 Remarks at a News Briefing Following the Announcement of the Creation of a New International Monetary Reserve Asset.

August 28, 1967

Secretary Fowler, Chairman Martin, Secretary Deming, Mr. Ackley, Governor Daane, ladies and gentlemen:

We are delighted to welcome back Secretary Fowler, Chairman Martin, Secretary Deming, and those who have been traveling with them.

We want to commend them on a job done with distinction. They have brought us over the hump of a very long, difficult, and decisive international negotiation.

Secretary Fowler, you have returned with insurance that the world will experience orderly and adequate growth of monetary reserves in the years to come. The plan for creation of a new reserve facility at the International Monetary Fund marks the greatest forward step in world financial cooperation in the 20 years since the creation of the International Monetary Fund itself.

The details of the plan agreed upon in

London are primarily the concern of financial experts. But the basic plan and what it represents advances the welfare of all Americans. This much should be clear:

—All the major industrial nations of the free world have shown their clear and sincere intent to build strongly and securely on the base of our current international monetary system.

—A firm foundation has been developed for another reserve asset to join gold, dollars, and other reserve currencies as the needed means of payment for a world of growing trade and commerce.

—Gold and exchange markets can now reflect a new sense of confidence in the adequacy of future reserve supplies. With the United States unquestionably committed to convert gold into dollars at \$35 an ounce and with the availability of a new facility to draw on when

needed, there can be no reasonable basis to fear a shortage of reserves.

Certainly no human being today can fully appraise the potential of this new development in the international monetary field. But we can be sure that this agreement will stand out in the history of international monetary cooperation. And so will the brilliant and determined efforts that made the agreement possible under the leadership of Secretary Fowler.

Saturday morning, concerning these negotiations, the *Times* of London said, "The eyes of the world should be focused on today's meeting. . . . For it is almost certainly the last chance . . . to reach agreement on the basic features of a scheme for the deliberate creation through the I.M.F. of a new kind of asset which all countries will be able to use and count as part of their official reserves. Without such a scheme, the increasing inadequacy of the world's money supply will make it progressively harder for national governments to follow liberal trade and employment policies. The livelihood and even the lives of literally hundreds of millions of people over the next decade or two could be at issue, especially in less developed countries."

As you can observe, we are very pleased that this agreement has been reached. And we are glad to welcome those home who contributed so much to it.

We met here in this room the other day and briefly announced that we were tabling a nonproliferation agreement as a result of many months and even years of effort on the international scene.

A few days before that we had just completed the negotiation of the Kennedy Round which taxed the capacity of those working in that field and which brought us a great satisfaction and pleasure.

The trilateral talks completed with the

British and the Germans—which were continued some when Chancellor Kiesinger was here—is another effort that we have been working on for the past several months.

Mr. Bator, who is attached to our staff here in the White House, has been shepherding and guarding all of these efforts. This is his last appearance before he will return to Harvard in the next few days.

I not only want to congratulate and say "well done" to Secretary Fowler and Secretary Deming, who has crossed the Atlantic many, many times in the last few months, but to Chairman Martin for sitting in on these meetings, and a member of the Federal Reserve Board, Mr. Daane, who worked very closely with us, but to Gardner Ackley and all of those associated with it.

We are very pleased with what has come about. To you, Secretary Fowler, we welcome you back. We have some other problems. Now that you have finished this agreement, we hope you can get one out of the Ways and Means Committee.

I now turn you over to the tender mercies of the financial press.

NOTE: The President spoke at 5:52 p.m. in the Fish Room at the White House. In his opening words he referred to Henry H. Fowler, Secretary of the Treasury, William McChesney Martin, Jr., Chairman of the Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System, Frederick L. Deming, Under Secretary of the Treasury for Monetary Affairs, Gardner Ackley, Chairman of the Council of Economic Advisers, and J. Dewey Daane, member of the Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System.

Following the President's remarks a news briefing was held by Secretary Fowler, Chairman Martin, Chairman Ackley, Under Secretary Deming, and Deputy Special Assistant to the President Francis Bator. The full text is printed in the Weekly Compilation of Presidential Documents (vol. 3, p. 1231).

During the briefing Special Assistant to the President George E. Christian announced that the President had signed Executive Order 11368 modifying interest equalization tax rates (3 Weekly Comp. Pres. Docs., p. 1233; 32 F.R. 12549; 3 CFR, 1967 Comp., p. 314).

372 Statement by the President Upon Directing the Development of a New Community on the Site of the National Training School in Washington. *August 30, 1967*

THIS spacious open tract can become a new, attractive, and well-balanced community at a major gateway to the Nation's Capital. It can provide comfortable and urgently needed housing, built and operated under the new "Turnkey" concept. But it should be more than a housing project. Washington needs and deserves the best in community planning—and this new development can be the best of communities. It should offer a full range of educational, recreational, and other public services to citizens of every station.

This new venture will be first and foremost a partnership—a partnership between local and Federal governments, between public officials, private developers, and the people of the city. The creative involvement of private enterprise will be a most important single element in the project.

But it is my hope that this concept, if it can be applied successfully in the Nation's Capital, will be useful elsewhere in the country. This new project could be the pioneer effort of a new program involving the

comprehensive development of surplus Federal land.

With this idea in mind, I have today named a special task force composed of Administrator Knott, Secretaries McNamara and Weaver, and Attorney General Clark to survey surplus Federal properties throughout the Nation, and with State and local leaders, to evaluate the prospects for transforming these lands into vital and useful community resources.

NOTE: The President's statement was made public as part of a White House release which announced that the President had requested the Secretary of Housing and Urban Development, the Administrator of General Services, and the Chairman of the District of Columbia Board of Commissioners to "move at once to develop a new community within the Washington city limits." The development, the release added, would be built on surplus Federal land, once the site of the National Training School for Boys. It would provide modern housing and services for about 25,000 citizens in some 4,600 units for tenants of varied income levels in a development compatible with a detailed land-use study recently completed by a major consulting firm.

The full text of the release is printed in the *Weekly Compilation of Presidential Documents* (vol. 3, p. 1235).

See also Item 531.

373 Remarks at a Meeting With the President's Committee on Mental Retardation To Receive the Committee's First Report. *August 30, 1967*

Mr. Vice President, Secretary Gardner, Dr. Aldrich, and members of the Committee:

First, I am very glad that you could come here and that I could receive you.

I have received several reports in the last week—some of the most encouraging reports

that have come to me. All of them that come to the White House are not encouraging. But this seems to have been a very good week.

The Secretary of the Treasury returned with a very glowing report of the success of

a monetary conference—probably the best achievement in that field since Bretton Woods 20 years ago.

We had word last week that we had agreed with the Soviet Union to table a nonproliferation treaty. The good that can flow from that agreement just cannot be estimated.

Chancellor Kiesinger was here. We talked about the future of Europe. We had a complete meeting of the minds.

So we have been very pleased with some of the discussions that we have had here. But I was particularly glad to schedule you this morning because there is not a committee that is in existence that I have more interest in or more concern for than the President's Committee on Mental Retardation.

There is not a committee, I think, that is better equipped to produce enduring and everlasting results than this Committee.

I must confess that until I became President I was rather oblivious to what was happening to our mentally retarded people in this country. I didn't know much about it. It did not consume a lot of my time or my interest.

But as so many other things that have happened in my life, women brought this to my attention. They stimulated concern about this problem.

First, I think foremost of all the people in America is Mrs. Joseph P. Kennedy—the mother of our late President. I have talked to her about it. She has written me about it. She has appeared on television about it.

Her daughter, Mrs. Shriver, who honors us with her presence, has had a consuming interest in this field and has spent probably more time on it than she has spent with her family—and very effectively.

Mrs. Humphrey, who charms us with her presence this morning, has talked to me

a number of times—and tried to open new doors and awaken new interests here in the White House.

Now, to know that we have a group like this led by these women and a few others present here this morning makes me feel that I want to add just what little I can to giving it an extra push.

Six million people are looking to us for leadership in this country—more people than live in Chicago and Los Angeles.

We pride ourselves on saying that in this country everyone has an equal chance. But I am just not sure that is true—I am not sure that it has ever been true. But I would like to see it come true.

You are doing something about making it come true. What you are doing is not only a good policy—I think it shows the kind of heart we have as a nation.

We have been rather heartless to ignore these conditions all of these years and not do anything about them.

—Besides, it is bad medicine.

—Besides, it is bad economics.

—Besides, it is bad for the future of our country if we are to be the strongest and most powerful nation in the world.

We are no stronger than the weakest among us. The weak must have help; the weak must have direction; and the weak must have training that you are supplying.

So I would say this morning that I am comforted and stimulated by your willingness to serve—by your dedication to the job and by the hope that I entertain that each of you will be a walking messenger to go forth to every State in the Union to try to make other people as aware of our problem—and what good we can do—as you have made me aware, or as these women whom I have talked to have made me aware of it.

So I hope you will take the handcuffs off of

your modesty, quit restraining yourselves, and become a walking spokesman for these underprivileged—a walking spokesman for those who need attention, for those who need help, and for those who need direction—a walking spokesman to enlighten the other 200 million people in this country as to what good can flow from efforts in this direction.

So I would hope in the not too distant future we could really honestly say that we are trying to give everyone an equal chance, even if we are not now doing it—regardless of their bank account, or their religion, or their ancestry.

So thank you for coming here. We appreciate very much what you are doing on behalf of all Americans.

I want you to come into my office and visit with me individually.

I don't get to read all the things that come to my desk. Certainly I don't read all of the bad things.

But this is one report I am going to read

and that I know is going to challenge me. I will have some ideas about it when I get through reading it.

In the meantime, please know that you have the highest priority in my concerns—that there is no committee, as I said, that will have more enthusiastic support from the White House than yours, and that I think it is really a blue-ribbon outfit.

Thank you, very much.

NOTE: The President spoke at 11:45 a.m. in the Rose Garden at the White House. In his opening words he referred to Vice President Hubert H. Humphrey, Secretary of Health, Education, and Welfare John W. Gardner, Chairman of the President's Committee on Mental Retardation, and Dr. Robert A. Aldrich, Vice Chairman. During his remarks he referred to, among others, Mrs. R. Sargent Shriver, wife of the Director of the Office of Economic Opportunity.

The Committee's report is entitled "MR 67: A First Report to the President on the Nation's Progress and Remaining Great Needs in the Campaign To Combat Mental Retardation" (Government Printing Office, 32 pp.).

The Committee was established by Executive Order 11280 on May 11, 1966 (2 Weekly Comp. Pres. Docs., p. 650; 31 F.R. 7167; 3 CFR, 1966 Comp., p. 112).

374 Remarks Upon Signing the Veterans' Pension and Readjustment Assistance Act of 1967. *August 31, 1967*

Mr. Vice President, Senator Yarborough, Congressman Dorn, Congressman Teague, other Members of Congress, Mr. Driver, ladies and gentlemen:

Today I have asked you to come here and join with me as I sign a measure that I feel will keep faith with this generation of our servicemen.

It is a way of saying to these men at arms in Vietnam and elsewhere that America does not forget.

It will also help needy veterans who have followed their country's flag in our past conflicts.

This bill before us does three things:

It gives returning servicemen more money to help them pursue their education, or train for jobs and skills under the new GI bill that we signed last year.

It will especially help those who have families make ends meet.

Second, it removes an inequity. It gives those now in service the same veterans benefits that have been granted to their brothers in other wars.

Third, it shows compassion toward the older and the poorer veteran, his widow and his children, by increasing pension payments

an average of 5.4 percent. This will make their standard of living a little better.

All of this will come at a time when we must exercise the utmost restraint in our spending. I reaffirm that necessity now.

Our budget is seriously deficient, and the deficit could run into many billions of dollars.

The first full year's cost of this bill is estimated to exceed by \$115 million the amount the President proposed to the Congress. But it was passed without a single dissenting vote in either House.

This might reflect the fact that 148 Members of both Houses remember from their own experience—and if they don't remember it, I am sure Senator Yarborough and Congressman Teague reminded them—the great assistance which the GI bill can provide.

One compelling fact about this increase persuades me that it can be accepted in good conscience, because most of these extra funds are investments in education, and are investments in job training, for all of those who have borne the burden of military service.

Both of these are crucial to the completion of this Nation's work. Both are cornerstones of this administration's program.

The GI bill, itself, has been one of the best investments, I think, that we have made as a people. I congratulate all the Members of Congress who have provided the leadership in that great effort.

Since I signed the GI bill just 18 months ago, almost a half million returning servicemen and women have used its benefits to go back to school, or to train themselves for a better life. More than half a million Americans stack arms each year—their service over.

One day the numbers of men whom we must call upon in time of conflict to protect

all of us will be reduced, because one good day the world is going to be at peace.

With every resource at my command I am working in every way I know how to hasten that day.

I welcome all the help that I can get along the way.

We are, and we will be, searching for a peaceful resolution to the war in Vietnam—every single day, and every single waking hour.

The forces who launched that war are now, at this moment, tragically using every terroristic plan, practice, or device they can conceive to try to stop the people of Vietnam from freely electing their own government.

The aggressors must realize that they cannot defeat the efforts of the South Vietnamese people to secure and strengthen their nation, nor can they, by their speeches or their propaganda, deter America's commitment to assist them.

And until that realization comes, then we Americans are going to—we Americans must—man the line where that commitment runs.

This bill that is before us today is in great part for those men who man that line.

To those men who man that line, their Congress and their President are glad to join together today to extend to them this modicum of recognition for the great sacrifices that they made for us throughout the years and that they are making particularly right now.

NOTE: The President spoke at 1:43 p.m. in the East Room at the White House. In his opening words he referred to Vice President Hubert H. Humphrey, Senator Ralph Yarborough of Texas, Representative W. J. Bryan Dorn of South Carolina, Representative Olin E. Teague of Texas, and Administrator of Veterans Affairs William J. Driver.

As enacted, the bill (S. 16) is Public Law 90-77 (81 Stat. 178).

375 The President's News Conference of
September 1, 1967

QUESTIONS

BOMBING OF NORTH VIETNAM

[1.] Q. Mr. President, there seems to be, at least in public, some dispute going on within the administration on bombing policy in North Vietnam, with Secretary McNamara's representatives taking one position and the military another.

First, if such a dispute exists, could you sort of define it for us, and second, has Secretary McNamara—

THE PRESIDENT. Let's take one at a time, Smitty.¹ I will give you another chance.

Q. All right.

THE PRESIDENT. The President is the Commander in Chief under the Constitution. His principal deputy in military matters is the Secretary of Defense. The Joint Chiefs are his military advisers.

The Joint Chiefs are a group of very able men. They are the finest in character and the best trained soldiers and sailors that we have. Their judgment is requested and respected, and certainly always carefully considered.

No two men ever see everything alike. Throughout our history there have been differences among Army leaders and naval leaders, between members of the Joint Chiefs and the civilians, between the civilians and the Congress. That is really the strength of our system.

The Congress, in writing the National Security Act of 1947, in which I played some part as a member of the Armed Services Committee, provided that the individual judgments of members of the Joint Chiefs

would be available to the Congress on request. As advisers to the President, of course, they are always available to him.

I have been here 36 years. During that period I have been intimately associated with the armed services. I have never known a period during that time when I thought there was more harmony, more general agreement, and a more cooperative attitude, or when there were more able men in control.

That is not to say that they all agree. It is very rare when the President finds that the men around the table are all in agreement. If all agree, I usually adjourn the meeting and send for somebody to give me the other viewpoint.

I did that last week on the question involving Indian wheat. I asked that the other side be given to me.

Roughly speaking—and this is subject to some adjustment—there are in the neighborhood of some 350 principal, significant targets that the President has seriously considered from the JCS list. Approximately 300 of those have been authorized. So six out of seven have been authorized.

Of those 300 authorized, all the civilians and all the military have agreed on them. Their opinion has varied from time to time. There has been some little difference of opinion—the President may feel this way and the Secretary of State may feel another way; or they may agree and the Secretary of Defense agrees with them, and maybe the Joint Chiefs feel that this is more important than the other.

Some of them don't have the viewpoint on how it might affect our overall political situation in the world, and so forth. All of those things are considered.

But in 300 of the 350 instances there has

¹ Merriman Smith of United Press International.

been general agreement.

The 50 left are in very strategic areas, primarily the port of Haiphong, Hanoi, and the buffer zone. The decisions to bomb those other 50 targets have not been made.

Before the President acts on them, he will carefully consider the views of his principal military advisers, such as the Joint Chiefs; his principal political advisers, the Secretary of State; his principal deputy in military matters, the Secretary of Defense.

I think it is fair to give you my impression that while the Joint Chiefs and the Secretary of Defense, the Secretary of State and the President, are not in complete agreement on everything, there is no deep division. The viewpoints of all are carefully considered and weighed, with decisions made on what we believe to be in the national interest. There is a very surprising and very agreeable amount of unanimity, with the men of the same general opinion.

There are no quarrels, no antagonisms. I think the Joint Chiefs have acted very ably. From their viewpoint they have expressed themselves thoroughly. They are available to come to the President any time they choose without coming through the Secretary of Defense. They have been requested to do that any time they want to.

I think at least the implications of the testimony before the committee is somewhat blown out of proportion. That has always been true, though.

I remember when we were fighting for a 70-group Air Force when the Secretary of Air, Mr. Symington, asked if he would not be permitted to give his own personal opinion before a congressional committee of which I was a member. Very frequently you find that men of strong minds do not always agree. When they do, you have to consider their individual viewpoints and then act in the way you think is in the best interest of

the Nation. That is what we have done.

But six out of every seven targets recommended have been authorized. As of now, I think that we are operating effectively, efficiently, and in the national interest.

Now I will take your next question.

SECRETARY MC NAMARA'S RECOMMENDATIONS

[2.] Q. Has Secretary McNamara recommended to you that the rate of bombing in the North be reduced?

THE PRESIDENT. The recommendations that we get from time to time are to authorize specific targets. When those meetings conclude, the Secretary of State, the Secretary of Defense, and the President have as of now been in agreement with each other.

STATEMENTS OF STENNIS COMMITTEE ON CONDUCT OF THE WAR

[3.] Q. Mr. President, I wonder if you would address yourself perhaps to a couple of specific statements by the Stennis committee. One, their assertion that the present policy has not done the job and it has been contrary to the best military judgment; and second, their assertion that it is necessary to bomb Haiphong now?

THE PRESIDENT. No, I don't want to get in an argument with the Senate committee. They have their responsibility to get as much information as they can get and to express their views. You will find that in every struggle that this country has gone through, various committees of the Congress do that.

That is their privilege. I don't care to argue with them. I believe our policy is a sound one. It is based on the best judgment that we have.

Every decision is going to be made after we get all the facts and then we are going to do what we think is in the national inter-

est. I am sure the committee wants to do the same thing.

STEEL PRICE INCREASES

[4.] Q. Mr. President, what is your reaction to the recent steel price increases in the face of urgings by Mr. Ackley that the companies hold a line?

THE PRESIDENT. Mr. Ackley expressed the viewpoint of the administration on that, Mr. Horner.² We regret very much that the companies felt it necessary to take the action they did. We expressed our view as strongly as we could in our recommendations.

Mr. Ackley spoke for the administration in that respect.³

SECRETARY MC NAMARA AND THE BOMBING IN THE NORTH

[5.] Q. Mr. President, getting back to Vietnam, has Secretary McNamara suggested that he resign if the rate of bombing is stepped up or if new targets are hit?

THE PRESIDENT. Absolutely not. That is the most ridiculous, nonsensical report that I have seen, I think, since I have been President.

Anyone who knows Secretary McNamara would know that on the face that was not true. He doesn't go around threatening anything or anyone.

VIEWS OF GEN. WALLACE M. GREENE, JR., ON THE BOMBING

[6.] Q. Mr. President, was General

² Garnett D. Horner of the Washington Evening Star.

³ For the text of the report to the President and Cabinet by Gardner Ackley, Chairman of the Council of Economic Advisers, see the Weekly Compilation of Presidential Documents (vol. 3, p. 1261).

Greene speaking strictly in accordance with the administration's policy when he said there were more important targets for bombing?

THE PRESIDENT. General Greene speaks as Commandant of the Marine Corps. He doesn't clear his speeches here. None of the Chiefs of Staff clear them here.

The provision of the Security Act says that "no provision of this Act shall be construed as to prevent a Secretary of a military department or a member of the Joint Chiefs from presenting to the Congress on his own initiative or to inform the Secretary of any recommendation relating to the Department of Defense that he may deem proper."

So the Secretaries of the Departments—Army, Navy, and Air—and the Chiefs of Staff of those Departments, express their opinions from time to time. They can do so without any approval from here, and they do.

PREDICTION BY GEN. HAROLD K. JOHNSON

[7.] Q. Mr. President, do you concur with General Johnson's prediction that the troops will be brought home in 18 months from Vietnam?

THE PRESIDENT. That is General Johnson's opinion. I have made no prediction and wouldn't care to at this time.

General Johnson is a very competent military officer and he has been out there and reached some conclusions. He expressed those to me.⁴ But I haven't made any prediction. I believe I will just leave that up to others.

⁴ General Johnson, Army Chief of Staff, held a news conference on August 12 following his report to the President. The text is printed in the Weekly Compilation of Presidential Documents (vol. 3, p. 1141).

THE SURTAX REQUEST

[8.] Q. Mr. President, a number of Congressmen from different parts of the country have said that they are opposed to your 10 percent surcharge. At this time, would you modify your request?

THE PRESIDENT. No. The committee has it under consideration. They will be taking additional testimony, after they return from their recess.

I would hope that they could act promptly upon the administration's recommendation. I would not anticipate the administration modifying them in any respect in the interim.⁵

THE PRESIDENT'S WEEKEND PLANS

[9.] Q. Mr. President, sir, can you give us an idea of what items of business apparently are keeping you in the Washington area this weekend?

THE PRESIDENT. What?

Q. What items of business are keeping you in the Washington area?

THE PRESIDENT. Nothing unusual. This is where my work is. I will have plenty to keep me busy. I don't know that I will be strictly here in Washington. I have no plans to go any other place. But if I get caught up with my work, and felt like I could, I would. There is not anything unusual about it one way or the other. I have been here a good many weekends.

Q. Mr. President—you caught me off guard now.

THE PRESIDENT. Next question.

GOVERNOR ROMNEY ON THE PRESIDENT

[10.] Q. Mr. President, Governor Romney held a news conference this week at the Midwestern Governors Conference and among other things he said that you are a political animal and said just about everything you do is politically motivated.

How do you take a statement like that?

THE PRESIDENT. I'll just let you judge that statement. You could be more objective.

EFFECT OF A STRIKE BY AUTOMOTIVE WORKERS

[11.] Q. How much do you think an auto strike would hurt the national economy?

THE PRESIDENT. We, of course, hope we will not have a strike. We will do everything we can to avoid it. There is no question but what any strike costs the economy.

The overall effect is difficult to estimate. That would depend on the nature, the length, and the extent of the strike.

THE COPPER SUPPLY PROBLEM

[12.] Q. Mr. President, I understand that copper is getting in increasingly short supply because of the strike. I was wondering if you had any idea when it might become necessary for you to invoke the Taft-Hartley Act?

THE PRESIDENT. No, we have reached no decision along that line. We are watching the matter very carefully. I have talked to some of the public officials involved, the Governors and others. I have talked to some of the administration officials—Mr. McNamara and others.

We are giving careful attention to it. We are very hopeful that we could resume pro-

⁵The Revenue and Expenditure Control Act of 1968 was approved by the President on June 28, 1968 (Public Law 90-364, 82 Stat. 251).

duction at as early a date as possible. We are doing everything to that end ourselves.

THE VIETNAMESE ELECTIONS ⁶

[13.] Q. Mr. President, what about these persistent reports that there may be some kind of a new peace move around about the time of the Vietnamese elections, which fall on Sunday, and the possibility that this might include another bombing pause? Are you giving any thought, yourself, to such a move?

THE PRESIDENT. I would say the reports—bombing pause and peace proposal Sunday—so far as I am aware, are off the top of someone's head. I know nothing about them. We look every day for every possibility that would lead toward peace, as I said yesterday.

But I think that we do ourselves a great disservice when, out of the clear air, we conjure up something that has no basis in fact. I cannot say what would happen tomorrow or the next day, or the next day.

But so far as I am aware at this time, the reports you mention are purely speculative and are without any foundation.

Q. Could I follow that up, sir? How will the United States follow up the election in South Vietnam?

THE PRESIDENT. Just as it is. The United States has a policy there, a carefully thought-out policy. It is a consistent policy. We want to see those people have the right of self-determination. We are very hopeful that they will be able, notwithstanding the terror that is being practiced, the murder that is

being committed, to be able to carry out their election with a minimum loss of life and with a maximum fairness and freedom that is possible in the conditions under which they operate.

We think it will involve substantial progress if they can have a fair and free election, and select their own officials. We believe that following this election, the officials so selected will do everything they can to improve the efficiency of their services, both military and civilian.

We have definite ideas in that regard—so far as pacification is concerned, so far as land reform is concerned, et cetera. We believe that the officials selected by the people themselves will, when they get the election behind them, take steps in that direction.

Of course, we will do anything we can to be helpful. It is a decision for them. It is their government, their actions, requiring their support. But any way we can supplement that support, we will do so with both counsel and resources.

FUTURE ASIAN SUMMIT MEETING

[14.] Q. Mr. President, do you still have an Asian summit meeting in your future?

THE PRESIDENT. We think that there will be a meeting of the leaders that have met from time to time sometime in the next few months. We have no country, no time, and no date. There is no speculation on it and no exchange of times or dates at this moment. But we expect to have one.

PEACE CANDIDATE IN 1968 ELECTIONS

[15.] Q. Mr. President, because of shifts in the polls, there has been a lot of talk within the Republican Party recently about the desirability of their running a peace

⁶ For the text of a news briefing by Ambassador-at-Large Henry Cabot Lodge upon his designation as coordinator of United States observers, and for a press pool summary of the observers' report, see the Weekly Compilation of Presidential Documents (vol. 3, pp. 1227 and 1256).

candidate next year, someone more "dove-ish" than some of their leading spokesmen. Would you welcome such a contest?

THE PRESIDENT. We in America want peace more than we want anything else. I believe that every person who is nominated by a national party will have that as his principal objective and principal goal. That has been true throughout our history. I think it will continue to be true.

CUT IN FOREIGN AID AUTHORIZATION

[16.] Q. Mr. President, sir, in line with your indication to Congress that you hope there would be a cutdown on spending, and balancing that against your programs, how do you feel about the cut in the foreign aid authorization?

The PRESIDENT. We felt that when we sent the recommendations to Congress, they were a very small proportion of our total national product and of our total budget. We cut all of the fat out that we thought was safe to cut.

The Senate had a different viewpoint. The House had a different viewpoint. We will give our support to the conferees to try to obtain as much of our request as is possible under the circumstances.

We worked very closely with the Foreign Affairs Committee and the Foreign Relations Committee. We did the best we could to impress upon them our views. In some instances they accepted them; in some instances they rejected them.

Now we are going to try to reconcile the differences and get the best program that is possible. We won't make much progress until they come back here September 11th. But needless to say, we were disappointed in many respects at the action taken.

We are hopeful that we can improve both

the Senate bill and the versions in conference in the conference committee. But that remains to be seen. We will do everything we can to get a bill as close to our best judgment—which was contained in our recommendations—as possible.

I don't want to spend too much time with you. If you people in the back will raise your voices a little, and raise your hands, I will get to you.

THE SITUATION IN THE MIDDLE EAST

[17.] Q. Mr. President, I was interested in knowing whether you could bring us up to date on the Middle East situation. You had the Yugoslavian Foreign Minister⁷ in here the other day. Is there anything you can tell us with regard to Mr. Bundy?⁸

THE PRESIDENT. Mr. Bundy is back in New York working with the Ford Foundation. He is available for consultations and does consult with us from time to time.

We are doing everything we can to aid in attempting to work out some settlement in that area of the world. As you know, some of the leaders of state in the Middle East have been meeting among themselves. From time to time we will get reports from the heads of state, as I did the night before last.

We will consider them and contribute any-

⁷ Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs Marko Nikezic of Yugoslavia met with the President on August 26 to deliver a personal message from President Tito as part of a continuing exchange with a number of interested governments on the situation in the Middle East.

⁸ On June 7 the President had appointed McGeorge Bundy as a Special Consultant and as Executive Secretary of the National Security Council Committee on the Middle East (see Item 255). The text of a news briefing held at that time by Mr. Bundy and George E. Christian, Special Assistant to the President, is printed in the *Weekly Compilation of Presidential Documents* (vol. 3, p. 837).

thing we can to bringing peace to that area. I have no specific progress to report to you.

CIVILIAN CONTROL

[18.] Q. Mr. President, Senator Mansfield has raised a question about the civilian control which is being challenged by both the Stennis report and the testimony of the generals. Do you regard the leader in control of the Government being under challenge?

THE PRESIDENT. No, we have gone through these things in every period of hostility that this Nation has engaged in. We speak our minds freely. We have differences and we express them.

But as President Truman used to say, in the last analysis, decisions will have to be made, and are made. I try to give proper weight to the recommendations made to me and then do what I think is best for our country.

We will expect reports from committees. I made many of them when I was Chairman of the Preparedness Subcommittee. Mr. Truman made many of them when he was chairman of the Truman committee.

Amidst hostilities we have these committees to check on each other and to check on the Executive. We will be getting their recommendations, as we get individual recommendations from Senators and Congressmen from day to day and time to time.

VIEWS OF GENERAL GREENE AND GENERAL JOHNSON

[19.] Q. Mr. President, you said earlier that you thought the controversy has been blown out of proportion.

Do you have any comment on the fact that General Greene and General Johnson

have seen fit to take it to the public forum, before the American Legion and other places?

THE PRESIDENT. I think that these men have expressed their opinion. I think they have a right to. I would think that the press has encouraged this from time to time and they ought to protect it, the right to dissent.

I don't ever expect all the people who are in the executive department to agree. I like to review various recommendations and pick out the best course that I think is open.

We don't all see everything alike, just because a man happens to be in the Marine Corps or the Chief of Staff.

I feel that I get complete cooperation out of all the Chiefs of Staff, and I think Mr. McNamara feels the same way. That does not mean they don't have an opinion that differs from ours.

I think you would be doing the country a disservice if you felt for a moment that there were any deep divisions between us. I think it is a pretty good team. I think it is working very effectively.

I think you make a little copy out of it and you blow it up. I don't detect any fire, except from what I read. I meet with them all the time.

Sure, sometimes one man would say, "I think we ought to hit this target," and three men have a reason why you shouldn't, who have a lot more facts or different views. They have to look at it from different angles.

When you ask the fellow, "Did you recommend it?" he will say, "Sure," but he doesn't say that someone acted improperly when he didn't get it approved.

If I approved everything that has been recommended to me, I wouldn't feel nearly as comfortable as I do. That is domestic, military, and everything. On occasion, we

have people especially selected to come in and give the other viewpoint.

IMPORTATION OF LONG STAPLE COTTON
FROM EGYPT

[20.] Q. Mr. President, do you think if Congress passed a bill to keep importations of long staple cotton from Egypt, a country that has cut off diplomatic relations with us, do you think if we pass such a bill and let our own farmers raise such cotton, that it would endanger relations in the Middle East, as the State Department says?

THE PRESIDENT. I think, Mrs. McClendon,⁹ you might want to pursue that question with the Secretary of Agriculture. I don't have all the information on the implications of it now.

Q. He is against it, too.

THE PRESIDENT. I am aware of the problem, but I am not prepared to go into it.

I do have a brief announcement that may be of some interest to you.

STATEMENT BY THE PRESIDENT ON ADDITIONAL WHEAT SHIPMENTS TO INDIA

[21.] [Reading] Last February the Congress authorized shipment to India of up to 3 million tons of U.S. wheat, "provided it is appropriately matched" by contributions from other industrialized countries.

Last May our efforts to mobilize other donors—and our painstaking measures to assure that their donations were large and real enough to fulfill the matching criterion established by the Congress—brought us to the point where the United States agreed to

send half this wheat—1.5 million tons. That action was taken in the light of more than \$96 million in contributions from other donors.

For the past few weeks, relevant senior officers of the U.S. Government have been engaged in a deep and detailed review of India's current food needs and the performance of other donors during the past 3 months.

This review has included careful documentation of food production and consumption conditions in India, as well as a thorough assessment of our ability to help, consistent with the letter and spirit of the resolution.

On the basis of this review, the President has today authorized a new agreement, providing a further 1 million tons of U.S. wheat to India. This decision reflects the following facts:

1. The food situation in India continues desperate. Public stocks are at their lowest point in living memory. Private stocks are completely exhausted. Food rations in major cities are at subsistence level and are the object of increasing political unrest. The immediate future of the world's largest democracy is greatly threatened. Free and peaceful development of Asia hangs in the balance.

2. However, this is only the short term outlook. Current reports on the monsoon rains suggest that 2 years of severe drought are over, and that, with luck, India can look forward to a record grain crop next crop year, with the fruits reaching Indian markets beginning in December of this year.

3. Since last May, India has received pledges from other industrialized nations totaling \$122.2 million in new aid which provides food, food related resources, or frees Indian foreign exchange to buy food. If it

⁹ Mrs. Sarah McClendon, representative of several Texas newspapers.

could be counted in full against the matching criterion, it would justify nearly 2 million tons in additional United States wheat.

4. However, in order to be meaningful, the new aid from other donors must be a real increment to Indian resources, and it must be additional to regular contributions to the India Aid Consortium. No one's interests are served by a charade in which real American wheat is "matched" by meaningless financial transactions or by funds which would otherwise be provided through the Consortium anyway and are merely earmarked for this purpose.

5. In all frankness, we do not know precisely how much of the \$122 million in new pledges meets these additional criteria. There is strong evidence that much of it does. If only about half of it does, we have a basis for providing 1 million tons of United States wheat.

6. We will not be able to make a precise estimate of how much of this aid is eligible for matching until the next meeting of the India Consortium, which will probably be held in October.

But starvation and threat of political chaos cannot wait. Therefore, I have determined to authorize now a further 1 million tons on the expectation that at least half of the new contributions from others will in fact be proven real and additional to normal Consortium contributions.

However, in order to assure that this Government behaves in strict accordance with the terms of the congressional resolution, I have also determined that the size of the United States contribution to the Consortium will not be finally determined until it is clear how much of the new aid contributions meet these criteria. If there is any shortfall between the cost of the grain authorized today and the amount of real and

additional aid supplied by other donors since last May, the United States contribution to the Consortium can be reconsidered. [*Ends reading.*]

What it adds up to is that we are going to make a million tons available today so that they can arrange for the shipping and get it worked out. Then we will determine whether the additional half million tons can be supplied at a later date. That will depend on other factors—the matching, et cetera—after the Consortium meets. The problem will be reviewed later concerning the remainder of the 3 million tons. But 1 million will be allotted today.

I will take any question on it.

QUESTIONS

EFFECT OF CLOSING THE SUEZ CANAL

[22.] Q. Will the closing of the Suez Canal, the present closing of the Suez Canal, interfere with getting the grain to India?

THE PRESIDENT. We will make our decision here and we will get it there as soon as we can. I am not quite sure what you mean by "interference." Do you mean delay or something?

Q. Delay.

THE PRESIDENT. Yes, there is some difference in time in shipping, if that is what you are asking.

AMOUNT OF AUTHORIZATION

[23.] Q. That is 1½ million tons, and the additional million tons makes it 2½ million tons that has been given, and a half million more is pending?

THE PRESIDENT. We were authorized to give up to 3 million tons, provided it was appropriately matched.

Q. Right.

THE PRESIDENT. And this makes 2½ million tons of the 3 million tons.

Merriman Smith, United Press International: Thank you, sir.

NOTE: President Johnson's one hundred and ninth news conference was held in his office at the White House at 12:02 p.m. on Friday, September 1, 1967. As printed above, this item follows the text of the Official White House Transcript.

376 Statement by the President: Labor Day, 1967. *September 2, 1967*

IN 1840, Andrew Johnson said, "I do not forget that I am a mechanic. I am proud to own it. . . . The Apostle Paul was a tent-maker; Socrates was a sculptor; Archimedes was a mechanic."

And he noted that Roger Sherman, who helped to write the American Constitution, was a cobbler of shoes.

The consistent thread through our national life is that men rise from their labors to lead their fellow men.

Very wisely, since 1894, we have observed Labor Day as a national celebration: to honor the working men and women of the country—and to remember that from our earliest days, many of our greatest leaders have been laboring men.

Today, it is good to pause and reflect about the course we are taking; about what it means to live and work in this rich Nation—and about where we are going from this critical moment in our century.

Too often, I believe, we see events only dimly; we concern ourselves with the passing affairs of the present—and miss the meaning of the quiet, deep-running currents in our time.

In the past few years, for example, we have lived through a time of historic economic growth and social progress, a period almost without precedent in our Nation. Yet most of us have accepted this swift and profound change as though it were

routine. As we set our goals and prepare for the gains of the future, we should look at this history of the recent past.

Consider these facts:

—Ten years ago, only 24 percent of American families had incomes above \$7,000 a year.

—Today 54 percent—more than half of all American families—have incomes above \$7,000. In 10 short years we have doubled the number of families who earn \$600 a month.

—In real terms, the median family income in our Nation reached \$7,436 in 1966, contrasted to \$6,162 in 1960, an increase of 21 percent in constant dollars.

These figures are a tribute to the energy and determination of our people—and to the remarkable productivity of labor and business in America.

In 1959, 22 percent of our people lived in poverty. Last year, that percentage had decreased to 15 percent.

This one fact strengthens my belief that the course we are taking in America is a good one—that our efforts to extend opportunity to all our citizens are succeeding.

I believe every American family should know this Labor Day that life is steadily improving in America.

We have moved forward—but not nearly far enough.

We have never been comforted by mere assurances of prosperous times for we know that private wealth is only a partial measure of our progress as a nation.

In America, our eyes are always on the road ahead—on the unsolved problems of the Nation, the great unfinished business of democracy, and on our most important goal—peace in all the world, and justice for all men.

Today, because our problems are great, because unfinished business crowds the national and the international agenda, our wealth imposes a solemn responsibility on every citizen.

Together, we who own so much must work more actively for equal opportunity—because we have learned that a victory for the poorest among us is a victory for everyone among us.

Together we must rebuild our cities, purify the air and water, heal the sick, care

for the helpless and the elderly, better educate every young American.

Together, we must build a nation in which respect for law is the creed of every citizen. We must work so that justice is not only a legal term but a condition of life in every neighborhood—and that peace with justice is the ruling condition throughout the world.

On this Labor Day, let us celebrate the distance we have come—toward security for every family, toward the comforts which hard work and growing wealth can bring. Let us recognize and salute the many good leaders of labor as well as those who follow them.

And let us remember that these achievements are not a record to rest upon—but a foundation to build upon.

That is our task for tomorrow.

NOTE: See also Item 354.

377 Statement by the President on His Intention To Nominate Walter E. Washington and Thomas W. Fletcher as Commissioner of the District of Columbia and Assistant to the Commissioner.

September 6, 1967

THREE WEEKS AGO Congress approved a reorganization plan to bring modern government to the Nation's Capital.

Even this new system can be only as strong and fair as the men who will lead it. That is why, for the last 3 weeks, I have engaged in an intensive search throughout the Nation to find the very best city executives for the posts of D.C. Commissioner and Assistant to the Commissioner.

In that search, we have reviewed literally hundreds of names and records.

Today, our search for a new D.C. Commissioner has come to a happy end.

First, we have found a man who can provide the leadership, the vision, the understanding, and the talent to move the Capital City forward—steadily and surely. We have found a man who will be a strong and authentic voice for the people of the District.

His name is Walter Edward Washington.

I am sending his nomination to the Senate as soon as it reconvenes. I hope that it will receive speedy and favorable consideration.

Walter Washington's adult life and his distinguished career have been spent in this city. He makes his home here. He is a graduate of Howard University and attended the

American University in Washington. He has been a fighter for effective government in the Nation's Capital. He knows the people of this city—because he is one of them.

The summary of the jobs he has held is an exciting story of commitment to the public service and the public good.

He is a distinguished lawyer.

He is a nationally famous specialist and innovator in urban problems.

After joining the National Capital Housing Authority in 1941, he rose through the ranks to become its Director in 1961. He held that post for 5 eventful years.

There he won the respect of his fellow citizens—not only in Washington but from urban experts throughout the Nation.

A year ago, Walter Washington went to New York to take the job as chairman of the New York City Housing Authority.

Now Mr. Washington has expressed his desire to come back home to lead his city in the job of first responsibility to the 800,000 citizens of the District.

He will be ably assisted by Mr. Thomas William Fletcher. Mr. Fletcher is now Deputy Assistant Secretary of Housing and Urban Development.

Throughout his career, Tom Fletcher has been a leader in city government.

Over the past 15 years, he has been a city administrator—one of the best in the business.

In 5 productive years as city manager of San Diego, California—from 1961 to 1966—Tom Fletcher won a national reputation as one of America's outstanding city executives.

There, he pioneered the most advanced city management-budgeting techniques. These have served as a model for other cities.

He is an expert fiscal planner.

Tom Fletcher has earned the high praise and strong endorsements of the leaders of the Nation's top municipal organizations: the National League of Cities, the International City Managers Association, and the U.S. Conference of Mayors.

He is an innovator. He is experienced, highly respected, and eminently qualified for his new job. He is a man who can make government work for the good of the people it serves.

In a special way, the problems of the Nation's first city are also the problems of the Nation. No men in any other public jobs face more exciting or exacting challenges than this new team of leaders for Washington.

We believe we have found the right men for the right jobs at the right time.

NOTE: The President also spoke briefly to reporters on the nominations. His remarks are printed in the Weekly Compilation of Presidential Documents (vol. 3, p. 1255).

See also Items 341 and 406.

378 Statement by the President Upon Signing Bill To Strengthen the College Work-Study Program. *September 7, 1967*

IT IS with great pleasure that I sign the college work-study amendments—which will improve a novel and far-reaching educational program.

Since 1964, when the first Economic Opportunity Act was passed, this new educa-

tional program has helped more than 300,000 students—most of them from poor families—to complete their college education. Next year, more than 200,000 students will earn over \$164 million as they work their way through college.

Under this program, needy and deserving college students work part time, on campus and off—in schools, libraries, and hospitals, in State and local government, and other projects. The Federal Government helps underwrite this employment in 1,700 institutions of higher learning, and 2,500 local government and school enterprises.

This act improves the work-study program in two important ways:

First: The new legislation provides that a student employee shall work an average of 15 hours per week each semester—rather than specifically requiring 15 hours of work each week. This allows a student to reduce his time on the job during testing or examination periods, and make up the loss later.

Second: The original act specified that the Federal share in the program—90 percent—would be reduced in one step this year, to 75 percent. The new legislation in order to reduce the financial impact of the reduction

on the employers of these students, phases the reduction in three steps: to 85 percent this year, 80 percent in 1968, and 75 percent in 1969.

The student who works to pay for his education does more than help himself financially. He builds resources of character, self-reliance, and independence that make his degree even more valuable to himself and to the country. And every student in the program contributes importantly to his college and his community.

In the past few years, we have embarked on an historic campaign to give every citizen an equal chance in America—regardless of his birth or his race or his financial status. This law is one way of moving that great effort forward. Its influence in America will be a lasting tribute to the 90th Congress.

NOTE: As enacted, the bill (H.R. 11945) is Public Law 90-82 (81 Stat. 194), approved September 6, 1967.

The statement was released at San Antonio, Texas.

379 Memorandum on Employee-Management Cooperation in the Federal Government. *September 8, 1967*

Memorandum for the Heads of Executive Departments and Agencies:

Five years have passed since Executive Order 10988 established the policy and arrangements for cooperation between employee organizations and agency management in the Executive Branch. They have been productive years.

The Chairman of the Civil Service Commission advises me that the program has been beneficial to management and employees alike. Agencies report marked improvement in communication with employees and significant benefits in such areas as safety practices, tours of duty, health, general working conditions and grievance handling. Employee organizations have gained responsible

status, stable and increasing membership, and representation rights that ensure substantial participation by employees in the improvement of personnel policies and practices that affect their well-being. This has been accomplished within the framework of public laws and policies that guard the public interest as the paramount consideration.

Today, over one million Federal employees have exclusive representation by employee organizations of their choice and the right to negotiate agreements with agency management. Many thousands more belong to organizations which have been accorded formal recognition and rights of consultation.

The improvements in employee-management relations achieved during this period

are a credit to responsible agency officials and union leaders and a tribute to the wisdom of the 1961 task force which framed the Order. Nevertheless, as the program has matured and grown there is increasing evidence that some of the arrangements devised for a fledgling operation are no longer suitable. The Civil Service Commission has received from both the Federal agencies and from employee organizations a number of suggestions for changes in the program.

The time has come for a public review of our five years of experience under Executive Order 10988—what the program has accomplished and where it is deficient—and for consideration of any adjustments needed now to ensure its continued vitality in the public interest.

Accordingly, I am designating a review committee for this purpose. The committee, which will be chaired by the Secretary of Labor, shall be made up of the following members: Robert S. McNamara, Secretary of Defense; Lawrence F. O'Brien, Postmaster General; Charles L. Schultze, Director of

the Budget; John W. Macy, Jr., Chairman of the Civil Service Commission; Joseph A. Califano, Jr., Special Assistant to the President.

In the course of this review of the Federal employee-management relations program employees and employee organization representatives, department and agency officials, experts in labor-management relations, and interested groups and citizens shall be given an opportunity to present their views for the consideration of the review committee.

I am asking the review committee to proceed immediately with its study and to report to me its findings and recommendations as soon as practicable.

All department and agency heads are urged to cooperate fully with the review committee in the accomplishment of this study.

LYNDON B. JOHNSON

NOTE: Executive Order 10988 of January 17, 1962, is entitled "Employee-Management Cooperation in the Federal Service" (27 F.R. 551; 3 CFR, 1959-1963 Comp., p. 521).

The memorandum was released at San Antonio, Texas.

380 Excerpts From Remarks at a Meeting With Insurance Executives To Discuss Their Plans for Participation in Urban Programs. *September 13, 1967*

THANK YOU, Mr. Fitzhugh. You and your colleagues here today have made a historic contribution to your country. So on behalf of all the people, I extend my thanks to you.

In my opinion, there is no more urgent domestic problem in America—and no more promising opportunity—than the American city. The history of our era will be, in large part, the history of our cities. Certainly every man here is deeply concerned about their problems. But there is something unique about this particular group: Every man here

has the power to back his concern with action. And action is what we need most.

This administration is already deeply committed to a program of action for the cities. Right now, we have programs pending totaling nearly \$7 billion to help America's cities. The first priority for all of us who are concerned is to support those programs; to see that they are enacted and funded and properly administered. Beyond that, there is much to do. But if we are ever going to travel the whole distance, we must take these first legislative steps.

But what the Government does, really, is only the beginning. Private efforts are not just essential to success—they are central to success. Last March, in a message to Congress on city problems, I said that the city presents a “tremendous market” for American business—if business is ready to do its part. In the last 2 weeks, we have launched:

- a project to use surplus Federal lands for city housing—and I said that the efforts of private developers would be its “most important single element,” and
- a project to encourage private industry not only to develop and build, but also to manage public housing projects.

The rent supplement program is really an effort to involve private enterprise in solving urban problems.

Because I feel so strongly about private involvement, I applaud this new billion dollar investment by the insurance industry. And you will get more than just applause; I am asking Secretary Weaver and other Cabinet members to cooperate fully with you in the days to come. I hope we can start to announce the first projects under this plan—not within months or weeks, but within a few days.

This initiative is more than a vote of confidence in the rent supplement program: It is a major investment in improving American life. I want it to succeed—so I urge you

to do four things:

One: Put your money and your efforts where the needs and problems are greatest, where the people are poorest. It is the sick, not the healthy, who need the doctor the most.

Two: Don’t sit back and wait for a response from developers. Go out and recruit; make this effort a crusade.

Three: Make yourselves missionaries to other business leaders. Urge them to make their commitments—follow your example.

Four: Keep up the dialogue you’ve started with your Government—and with State and local officials. More than ever, this country needs the energy and commitment of businessmen.

NOTE: The President spoke at 11:40 a.m. in the Cabinet Room at the White House. In his opening words he referred to Gilbert W. Fitzhugh, Chairman of the Joint Committee on Urban Problems of the American Life Convention and the Life Insurance Association of America and Chairman of the Board of the Metropolitan Life Insurance Company.

Following the President’s remarks Mr. Fitzhugh read a statement, then held a news briefing on the insurance industry’s new investment program. Robert C. Weaver, Secretary of Housing and Urban Development, and Joseph A. Califano, Jr., Special Assistant to the President, participated in the briefing. The text of Mr. Fitzhugh’s statement, a list of Government officials and insurance executives who attended the meeting, and the text of the news briefing are printed in the Weekly Compilation of Presidential Documents (vol. 3, pp. 1283, 1284).

As printed above, this item follows the text released by the White House Press Office.

381 The President’s Toast at a Luncheon Honoring the Japanese Cabinet Ministers Attending the Meeting of the Joint U.S.-Japan Committee on Trade and Economic Affairs. *September 13, 1967*

IT IS a very great pleasure to welcome you here.

These meetings are testimony to the friendship that unites two great nations. They are infused with a sense of urgency—

and of confidence. The problems of Asia and the Pacific provide the urgency; the record of America and Japan in these past years inspires the confidence.

Each of us can learn from the other’s ex-

perience with the problems of modern urban societies: how to cleanse the environment, how to transport and house our people, how to enrich the lives of individual men and women.

We share other problems as well, inherited from the past. We in America welcome the opportunity to explore those problems with you.

Together, we face the vast problems of an Asia straining to achieve a better and more secure life. We have seen hope stir in hungry lands—and we have responded to it. The world's future stability demands that the peoples of the Pacific find their way, in peace, out of the agonies of the past.

One heartening development is the growing spirit of regional cooperation in Asia—a spirit which Japan has strongly helped to promote.

America's own commitment to Asia is firm.

Our two nations do not always see our

responsibilities in the same light. But we in America will always welcome your wisdom and counsel.

There is much that we can do together.

We share the experience of growth and prosperity. And out of that, we share a knowledge which can change and enrich the future of our neighbors.

It is our task to work in partnership toward a goal worthy of the greatness of our people: the progress, the peace, and security of the Pacific.

These meetings help show us the way.

I ask you now to join with me in a toast: Gentlemen, His Imperial Majesty, the Emperor of Japan.

NOTE: The President spoke at 1 p.m. in the State Dining Room at the White House. Japanese and American members of the Committee and their advisers who attended the luncheon are listed at the end of the joint communiqué issued following the meeting and printed together with related documents in the Department of State Bulletin (vol. 57, p. 455).

382 Remarks in Kansas City, Missouri, at the Meeting of the International Association of Chiefs of Police. *September 14, 1967*

President Morris, Mayor Davis, Chief Lawrence, Mr. Tamm, Chief Kelley, ladies and gentlemen:

There is an old story about President Calvin Coolidge and his response to the question, "What do you think about sin?"

As you may remember, President Coolidge is supposed to have answered, "I'm against it."

Most Americans would say the same thing today about poverty, disease, and ignorance—and crime.

So I don't expect special credit this morning for coming before the International Association of Chiefs of Police to talk about crime and only say, "I'm against it."

It would not enlighten your discussions nor contribute to public understanding if I were to spend my time here in a long lament about the evil consequences of crime. I think they are as self-evident as they are real.

Neither am I going to be content to just preach about the decline in morality in America.

In the first place, I just do not believe that morality is declining. The responsibility that this Nation has shown, in meeting its human obligations at home and abroad, convinces me that America is a Nation that is strong today.

In the second place, I do not believe that

sweeping indictments of our Nation's morality will help us get at the solution of the real problems that affect morality—the problems of poverty, the problems of disease, the problems of ignorance, or of international aggression, or of crime. Self-righteous indignation is not a policy. It is a substitute for a policy.

What America needs is not more hand-wringing about crime in the streets. What America needs is a policy for action against crime in the streets—and for all the people of this country to support that policy.

And so, believing that as I strongly do, I established in March 1965 the President's Commission on Law Enforcement and Administration of Justice. I instructed and charged this Commission to deal with the following questions:

- How can law enforcement be organized to meet present needs?
- What steps can be taken to insure protection of individual rights?
- Through what kinds of programs can the Federal Government—of which I am a part—be most effective in assisting and supplementing, not supplanting, State and local law enforcement?

I asked the members that I carefully selected from throughout the Nation to consider the problem of making our streets and our homes and our places of business safer—and to inquire into the special problems of juvenile crime, to examine the administration of justice in the lower courts—to explore the means by which organized crime can be arrested by Federal and local authorities closely coordinating and cooperating together.

The Commission's report, rendered last winter, is a study of crime and a study of criminals. But it is much more than that. It is a systematic analysis of the strengths—

as well as the weaknesses—in our American law enforcement. It is a prescription for action—action—action at every level of government, and it is a constructive guide for thoughtful citizens throughout this land in every walk of life.

Acting on its report, I urged the Congress this year to promptly act—promptly act—upon the most comprehensive Federal legislation that has ever been devised to help local authorities meet the problem of crime at the local level in their cities.

That legislation was called the Safe Streets and Crime Control Act. It was based on the five fundamental principles of the Crime Commission's report:

- First, that crime prevention is of paramount importance.
- Second, that the system of justice must itself be just. The system of justice must itself be just and it must have the respect as well as the cooperation of all of its citizens.
- Third, better trained, better paid, and better equipped people are desperately needed throughout the land.
- Fourth, police and correctional agencies must have better information and deeper and broader research into the causes, and into the prevention and control of crime.
- Fifth, and last, substantially greater resources such as more judges and prosecutors, and faster court action, more and better court personnel, more modern court administration—thus modernizing, improving, and bringing the entire criminal justice system up to date in the 20th century.

I did not propose that the Federal Government take over the job of dealing with crime in American streets because from the birth of the Republic to the present moment re-

sponsibility for keeping the peace in our cities has been squarely on the shoulders of local authorities.

Respect for law and order begins at home. Children must learn it and must be taught it from their parents. Your children learn it from you—and by what you do and by the example you set. That means that every time we water the lawn when there is an ordinance against it at a certain time of day, the children learn the wrong lesson about respect for law and order—if we water the grass at the wrong time.

That means that every time a parent writes a note to the teacher to excuse Mary's or Johnny's absence from school when they really don't need to be excused and are not sick, they, the children, learn from the parents the wrong lesson about respect for law and respect for order.

The crimes that have most disturbed our people—homicide, robbery, physical assault, burglary, automobile theft, and driving while intoxicated—are crimes against local and State law.

Those laws are made by the city councils and made by the State legislatures. They must be enforced by the police and the State patrol. Their perpetrators are tried in local courts, by local citizens. They are sentenced locally. They are prosecuted locally by judges—by prosecutors who are selected by local people and by judges who are selected by local people.

They are returned to local communities when their sentence has been served—their penalty paid. And these local communities look upon their record and they are under the supervision of local authorities.

Unlike most other countries, America has no national police force. And it desires none. Our Founding Fathers were very careful to see that none was provided for. Why, today

in this country our largest city has more police officers than the entire United States Government—one city has more police officers than the entire Government of the United States of America.

Officials in Washington just cannot patrol a neighborhood in the Far West, or stop a burglary in the South, or prevent a riot in a great metropolis.

In the end, then, the quality of the local police, the action of the local prosecutor, the local grand juries, the fairness and the justice of the local courts, the effectiveness of the local correctional systems—all of this responsibility is lodged appropriately and properly in the hands of local authorities—of local citizens.

They at the local level must decide how good they want their law enforcement in their cities to be.

They must determine whether it is right—whether it is just and whether it is fair—to ask a man to risk his life to protect their life for a salary that is lower than they pay another man for working behind a desk or standing on the assembly line in an industrial plant.

They must determine at the local level whether they want a court system that they select and provide for which delays justice until justice is denied.

They must determine locally whether they want a correctional system that deals with youthful offenders, not as lives to be redeemed, but as people who are doomed to clash repeatedly with the law.

If they decide that they want something better for their communities than what they are getting today, then we think that if they make this decision—and they can make it today through their Congressmen and their Senators supporting the recommendations the President has made—some of which have

been before the Congress many years—then their National Government can, should, and will help them get it—not by taking over the system of law enforcement, but by helping them strengthen and reform it.

That is what the Safe Streets Act that I recommended to the Congress would do. If its spirit and if its purpose survive, it will provide grants to those cities and to those States who not only increase their present commitment to criminal justice, but who are willing to go out and develop programs for:

- better training,
- better use of their personnel,
- higher standards and for innovations such as tactical squads and community relations units, and
- new techniques of rehabilitation.

It will help pay the salaries of those who operate these programs. It will help pay the salaries up to one-third of the grant which could be used to increase the pay of policemen and other criminal justice personnel working with them.

The key to this program is experiment and innovation—and better use of the most advanced knowledge that we have gained in this country of crime, its treatment, and its causes. In my opinion, every law enforcement official in this country ought to welcome it in the spirit in which it is offered: as a practical and imaginative tool for helping our law enforcement officers cope with crime in the cities without in any way—in any way—diminishing either their responsibility or their authority.

Now to a matter that affects you and affects you much more than most of the citizens, but in the end it will affect every single one of us—it will reach into every home in this land—and that is the gun sale law. A law to limit—a law to safeguard—the sale of guns has been before our Congress for several years.

Its passage would plug up one more big loophole to save your life, and mine, or the life of some innocent child down the street. And I hope it will pass.

Its purpose is simple—it is to keep lethal weapons out of the wrong hands—out of the hands of dangerous criminals, out of the hands of drug addicts, out of the hands of mentally ill people who really know not what they do.

Its basic aim is to limit the out-of-State purchases and the interstate mail-order sale of firearms. We believe this is the most effective way that the Federal Government has of protecting your safety and the safety of your children from criminals, drug addicts, and the mentally ill.

If we want to curb crime—if we want to arrest crime—if we want to restrain criminals—here is an action that we can take that will be a long step forward.

Let us not be content to bewail the rising crime rate or to talk about the statistics of the numbers of repeaters who fill our jails and prisons while we turn our backs and ignore the fact that they can go to any mail-order house and get a weapon to shoot your wife after they tear the door down at midnight.

Let us act instead of talk against crime. Let us repair as many shattered lives as we can. Let us do it within and through the American system of due process and in keeping with our tenacious regard at all times for the blessings of individual freedom.

You, and the men that you command, are America's frontline in the fight against crime. You endanger your lives every day just as the man does in the rice paddies of Vietnam to protect freedom, to protect liberty, to protect your country.

This summer, some of you experienced a new kind of disorder in your cities. You faced, not individual acts of violence or just

thievery, but you faced massive crimes against people and against property.

Much can explain—but nothing can justify—the riots of 1967.

They damaged a great deal more than the storefronts and the American homes. They damaged the respect and the accommodation among men on which a civilized society ultimately depends, and without which there can be no progress toward social justice.

The violence of this summer raised up a new and serious threat to local law enforcement. It spawned a group of men whose interest lay in provoking—in provoking—others to destruction, while they fled its consequences.

These wretched, vulgar men, these poisonous propagandists, posed as spokesmen for the underprivileged and capitalized on the real grievances of suffering people.

And the vast majority of those people—the vast majority of them—believe that obedience to the law, in Abraham Lincoln's phrase, must be our religion here in America.

They have seen the law change. They have seen it become more just as the years passed in our times. They have seen their rights more firmly established, their opportunities sharply increased in the last decade.

They know that the law in a democratic society is their refuge, and that lawless violence is a trap for all those who engage in it.

We must redeem their faith in law. We must make certain that law enforcement is fair and effective—that protection is afforded every family, no matter where they live—that justice is swift and justice is blind to religion, color, status, and favoritism.

We cannot tolerate behavior that destroys what generations of men and women have built here in America—no matter what stimulates that behavior, and no matter what is offered to try to justify it.

Neither can we abide a double standard of

justice, based on the color of a man's skin or the accent of a man's speech.

Those who wear the police officer's badge—those who sit in judgment in the courts—those who prosecute in the chambers—those who manage our correctional institutions—all of these have a very special responsibility for the maintenance of order and the achievement of justice throughout this land.

But every single one of us—private citizen and government official—shares some in that responsibility.

We can all say very easily, "We are against crime"—and then we can let it go at that. We can preach sermons, we can write editorials, we can make speeches, and we can get our pictures made talking about crime and immoral behavior—and we can think that we have done our duty.

Or we can respect—we can encourage—all of our citizenry to respect the law and to respect those who protect us in the name of the law.

We can be willing to pay the bill for improving the performance of our police, our courts, and our correctional institutions, and give them the salary, pay, and equipment that they need. We can insist on devoting enough of our resources and enough of our brainpower to meet the problem of crime—to make America safer and more just for all its citizens.

I have always felt that we could make great strides forward if we would only realize that the nurse and the medical attendant who in the middle of the night may determine whether we live or die when we need attention—that they have better training, better pay, and better inducements; that the teacher who prepares our children, sets an example for them, and infuses knowledge into them—that they should be among our best trained, our best prepared, and our best rewarded.

And that the policeman and the sheriff who protect the lives of our wives, children, families, and ourselves should be among the best equipped, best trained, and the best paid people in the land.

We cannot get those things just with rhetoric and conversation, picture-taking and television film. We have to pay for it. We have to desire it. We have to be willing to sacrifice in order to get it.

That is going to take a lot more than just talking "against" crime. That is going to take, among other things, being for action.

I would hope that we could all be for the Congress taking action to make our streets safer—and taking action that will better promote civil peace—that we can take action for better schools and better playgrounds, for more and better support of our churches and our spiritual leaders—for better housing and better homes, for better living of all our people—which in the end will give us better citizens and a better and stronger Nation.

It will make us all a happier and more guilt-free people.

I am sorry that I could not be with you the early part of your convention. I did very much, though, want to come here and talk to you—and to salute you before you returned to your respective homes and again

assumed command of this most responsible service that you are rendering and performing this great duty that is yours.

We look to you to protect our families, our homes, and our lives. You have a right to look to your public servants, your political leaders, to see that your efforts are not forgotten, are not ignored, are not put at the bottom of the priority list.

I thought this morning by coming out here and visiting with you and telling you some of the things that were in the heart and the head of your President, that perhaps we could awaken this Nation to a responsibility that we are not assuming—to an obligation that we are not discharging—to a job that the President and the Congress, the legislators, and the city councils must face up to.

I am ready to get on with my part of it.

Thank you very much.

NOTE: The President spoke at 11:40 a.m. at the Municipal Auditorium in Kansas City, Mo. In his opening words he referred to William H. Morris, president of the International Association of Chiefs of Police, Ilus W. Davis, Mayor of Kansas City, Leonard G. Lawrence, first vice president of the Association, Quinn Tamm, executive director of the Association, and Clarence M. Kelley, Chief of Police of Kansas City.

The Omnibus Crime Control and Safe Streets Act of 1968 was approved by the President on June 19, 1968 (Public Law 90-351, 82 Stat. 197).

383 Citation Accompanying National Security Medal Awarded Posthumously to Desmond FitzGerald. *September 15, 1967*

THE PRESIDENT of the United States posthumously awards the National Security Medal to

DESMOND FITZGERALD
CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

in recognition of his outstanding contributions to the national security as set forth in this

CITATION:

As an American of high dedication to the principles upon which our Nation was founded, Mr. FitzGerald on two occasions left the practice of law to offer his unusual talents to his Government. Enlisting as a private in the United States Army in the early days of World War II, Mr. FitzGerald served gallantly and with distinction in the

Asiatic-Pacific Theater until his separation as a major after the close of hostilities.

He again volunteered his services to the Nation when, at the outbreak of war in Korea, he became a member of the Central Intelligence Agency. In the following sixteen years, Mr. FitzGerald's exceptional competence and stimulating leadership won the confidence of his associates and established a standard of excellence to guide and inspire others who will follow in the intelligence service of our country. In achieving the remarkable accomplishments that have been of major significance to the United States during periods of world crisis, Mr. FitzGerald gave unstintingly of himself and his

energies, of his courage and his imagination. His unchallenged integrity matched only by his passion for anonymity set precedents difficult to follow but of high importance to our Government. Mr. FitzGerald's valuable contribution to the strength of our Nation's foreign intelligence effort upholds the finest traditions of the Federal service.

LYNDON B. JOHNSON

NOTE: A White House announcement accompanying the text of the citation stated that the President would present the medal to Mr. FitzGerald's widow in a private ceremony at the White House.

The medal, the announcement noted, was established in 1953 as an award for outstanding contributions in the field of intelligence relating to national security.

384 Remarks Upon Presenting the Presidential Unit Citation to the 1st Cavalry Division (Airmobile) and Attached Units. *September 15, 1967*

Secretary Resor, General Haines, General Kinnard, members and former members of the 1st Cavalry Division:

America's history books are filled with the names of places that are far removed from America's shores, where her strength and her will were tested, and where they triumphed.

We know most of those places very well—the Argonne—Anzio—Okinawa—and the Pusan Perimeter.

Now they will add the Ia Drang Valley in the Central Highlands of South Vietnam.

In one critical month there in the fall of 1965, American troops were locked in major combat with regular forces from North Vietnam.

When that month was over, the emerging shape of what we now know to be a certain truth could be seen: The enemy can never win Vietnam by armed conquest.

Today, we have come here to the Rose

Garden in the White House to honor the men who first proved that this was so: the 1st Cavalry Division (Airmobile). Their performance in the Ia Drang Valley from October 23 to November 26, 1965, has earned them a Presidential Unit Citation for heroism.

Air cavalry—with its mobility and its potential for surprise on the battlefield—was a promising but untried concept, until the men of the 1st Cavalry, in their first test of arms, proved its validity.

They proved more than a concept. To the Vietnamese people who had lived under Vietcong control for so long, their presence helped destroy the myth—which the enemy had carefully built—that the area was permanently tied to the enemy.

The war in Vietnam, as all of you know, is a new kind of conflict. American arms are being tested there by a new kind of aggres-

sion. If it should succeed, it will be used again. Of that, we and the rest of the world may be sure.

In past years, our military gave us only the alternatives of permitting the enemy to have his victory undeterred, or of stopping him with a massiveness that could provoke a nuclear war.

America needed a new response to meet the new form of aggression. Great names went into the construction of that response—John F. Kennedy, Robert McNamara, Maxwell Taylor.

What the 1st Cavalry Division did in the Ia Drang Valley demonstrated that the new kind of warfare could be met and could be mastered. They dealt a hard blow to the Communist belief that freedom can be destroyed piece by piece.

What happens in Vietnam is extremely important to this Nation's freedom and it is extremely important to the United States security. The cavalymen who took their stand in the Central Highlands, and showed that America could meet its responsibilities in fact as well as in theory, knew that. The men in Vietnam today know it.

And because they fought with such bravery and such skill, I salute them here this morning on behalf of all of their fellow citizens who live in this Nation of which all of us are so proud.

Thank you very much.

[Preceding the President's remarks, Secretary of the Army Stanley R. Resor read the citation, the text of which follows.]

By virtue of the authority vested in me as President of the United States and as Commander-in-Chief of the Armed Forces of the United States I have today awarded

THE PRESIDENTIAL UNIT CITATION (ARMY)
FOR EXTRAORDINARY HEROISM TO THE 1ST
CAVALRY DIVISION (AIRMOBILE) AND AT-
TACHED UNITS

The 1st Cavalry Division (Airmobile) and attached units distinguished themselves by outstanding performance of duty and extraordinary heroism in action against an armed enemy in the Republic of Vietnam during the period 23 October 1965 to 26 November 1965. Following the attack on a Special Forces camp at Plei Me, in Pleiku Province, on 19 October 1965 by regular units of the Army of North Vietnam, the 1st Cavalry Division (Airmobile) was committed to action.

The division was initially assigned the mission of protecting the key communications center of Pleiku, in addition to providing fire support both for an Army of the Republic of Vietnam (ARVN) armored column dispatched to the relief of the besieged camp, and for the camp itself. The 1st Cavalry Division (Airmobile), having recently been organized under a completely new concept in tactical mobility, and having arrived in the Republic of Vietnam only a month earlier, responded quickly with an infantry brigade and supporting forces. Using air assault techniques, the division deployed artillery batteries into firing positions deep within enemy-held territory and provided the vital fire support needed by the ARVN forces to accomplish the relief of the Special Forces camp.

By 27 October, the tactical and strategic impact of the presence of a North Vietnamese regular army division in Pleiku Province necessitated a change in missions for the 1st

Cavalry Division. The division was given an unlimited offensive role to seek out and destroy the enemy force. With bold thrusts, elements of the division pursued the North Vietnamese regiments across the dense and trackless jungles of the west-central highlands, seeking the enemy out in his previously secure sanctuaries and giving him no quarter. In unfavorable terrain and under logistical and tactical conditions that would have stopped a unit with less capability, motivation and esprit, the cavalymen repeatedly and decisively defeated numerically superior enemy forces.

The superb training, unflinching devotion to duty, and unsurpassed gallantry and intrepidity of the cavalymen, individually and collectively, resulted in numerous victories and succeeded in driving the invading North Vietnamese division back from its positions at Plei Me to the foot of the Chu Pong Massif. There, in the valley of the Ia Drang, the enemy was reinforced by a fresh regiment and undertook preparations for more incursions into Pleiku Province. The 1st Cavalry Division deployed by air its men and weapons to launch an attack on this enemy staging area, which was 35 kilometers

from the nearest road and 50 kilometers from the nearest logistical base. Fully utilizing air mobility in applying their combat power in a series of offensive blows, the men of the division completely defeated the numerically superior enemy.

When the enemy finally withdrew his broken forces from the battlefield, the offensive capability of the North Vietnamese Army in the II Corps tactical zone had been blunted. The outstanding performance and extraordinary heroism of the members of the 1st Cavalry Division (Airmobile) and attached units, under the most hazardous and adverse conditions, reflect great credit upon themselves, the United States Army, and the Armed Forces of the United States.

LYNDON B. JOHNSON

NOTE: The President spoke at 11:36 a.m. on the South Lawn at the White House. In his opening words he referred to Secretary of the Army Stanley R. Resor, Gen. Ralph E. Haines, Jr., Vice Chief of Staff of the Army, and Lt. Gen. Harry W. O. Kinard, Commander of the 1st Cavalry Division (Airmobile), who received the award on behalf of the unit.

A White House announcement of the award issued on August 19, also included a summary of the Division's civil action operations in Vietnam (3 Weekly Comp. Pres. Docs., p. 1188).

385 Letter to the President of the Senate and to the Speaker of the House of Representatives Urging Enactment of Gun Control Legislation. *September 15, 1967*

[Released September 15, 1967. Dated September 14, 1967]

Dear Mr. President: (Dear Mr. Speaker:)

In August of last year, a demented sniper sat with an arsenal of weapons at the top of a University tower and coldly and systematically killed and maimed 44 Americans.

The horror of that senseless slaughter shocked the entire Nation. Yet, today, 13 months later, Congress has failed to enact

a gun control law. In those intervening 13 months, guns were involved in more than:

- 6,500 murders
- 10,000 suicides
- 2,600 accidental deaths
- 43,500 aggravated assaults
- 50,000 robberies.

FBI Director J. Edgar Hoover has just reported that the use of firearms in danger-

ous crimes is on the upswing. For the first six months of 1967 there was a:

—24 percent rise in the use of guns in aggravated assaults.

—37 percent rise in the use of weapons in robberies.

A civilized nation cannot allow this armed terror to continue.

An enlightened Congress *must not* allow it to continue.

The time has come for action.

Last year, two million guns were sold in the United States. Many of them were sold to hardened criminals, snipers, mental defectives, rapists, habitual drunkards and juveniles.

There is no excuse for this.

There is no excuse for a holdup at gun point on a dark city street or an armed robbery in a house where children are sleeping. We are long past the point where we can allow lethal weapons to be hawked by the same mail order techniques used to market frozen steaks or baskets of fruit. We are long past the point where we can allow an enemy of society to buy and use a weapon of death and disorder—when existing state laws would not even allow the same person to drive a car, or to vote.

Last February, after an exhaustive report by the National Crime Commission, I recommended that the Congress enact the State Firearms Control Act of 1967—the third such gun control bill I proposed since I became President. That legislation is designed to:

—Stop interstate mail order sales of all firearms.

—Stop over-the-counter sales of firearms, other than rifles and shotguns, to any person who does not reside in the State in which the seller does business.

—Stop sales of handguns to any person under 21, and sales of rifles and shot-

guns to any person under 18.

—Curb imports of firearms into the United States.

Despite the urgency, however, the bill has not been enacted by Congress, and has not as yet been reported out of the Senate or House subcommittees.

The challenge of any gun control bill is to keep weapons from the hands of the dangerous and still permit the law abiding citizen to acquire them.

The Administration's bill meets that challenge. It is directed primarily at the criminal use of firearms. Its basic approach is to limit out-of-state purchases and interstate mail-order sales of firearms. This will allow State and local authorities to exercise such controls as the people of their own communities believe are warranted.

Recently, for example, the State of New Jersey enacted its own gun control legislation. During the first six months of its operation more than 7% of the prospective gun purchasers had prior criminal records. Over 540 individuals were denied licenses to buy guns because they were hardened criminals, or alcoholics, or drug addicts or mentally unstable—540 people to whom guns were not the tools of a sportsman but the potential instruments of terror and violence. Think of the tragedy and the waste this has avoided.

The measure now before Congress is aimed solely at keeping deadly weapons out of the wrong hands. It interferes *neither* with sportsmen nor law-abiding citizens with a legitimate need. This legislation will impose no real inconvenience on gun buyers. But under any circumstances, who would measure inconvenience against the personal safety and security of thousands of American citizens?

The passage of an effective gun control statute can be an important step in providing a climate of security for all our citizens.

It can help them enjoy the right to travel unmolested, to walk without fear on the streets of our cities, and to be secure in their homes.

Its passage will avoid senseless tragedy, and promote the safety of the American people.

As I said today to the International Association of Chiefs of Police—talking about morality, speaking about crime, deploring the conditions that exist cannot get the job done. The time is here and now to stand up

and vote against crime.

I call upon the Congress to serve the public interest by promptly enacting this vital gun-control legislation.

Sincerely,

LYNDON B. JOHNSON

NOTE: This is the text of identical letters addressed to the Honorable Hubert H. Humphrey, President of the Senate, and to the Honorable John W. McCormack, Speaker of the House of Representatives.

Firearms control legislation was not enacted during the first session of the 90th Congress.

386 The President's Remarks at a News Briefing by Members of the Special Railroad Board on Their Final Recommendations.

September 15, 1967

SENATOR MORSE and the other members of his board, set up pursuant to a resolution of Congress, have just made a report contemplated by that resolution. Senator Morse will be glad to review the details with you.

Senator Saltonstall, another member of the board, had an engagement he could not cancel in Massachusetts today. He had the chairman speak for him in this connection.

We have a unanimous report from the board. This is one of the finest products that any board has produced. I am very proud of the public service that has been rendered by each of these men. They have given willingly and patriotically of their time to serve the public interest.

The President, on behalf of all the people

of this country, is proud of their product. We are very grateful.

NOTE: The President spoke at 5:40 p.m. in the Fish Room at the White House.

The board's report, dated September 15, 1967, is entitled "Report and Determination of the Special Railroad Board Established Pursuant to Public Law 90-54" (24 pp., processed).

The text of the news briefing which followed the President's remarks is printed in the Weekly Compilation of Presidential Documents (vol. 3, p. 1310), as is the text of a news conference held by Senator Wayne Morse of Oregon following his appointment as chairman of the board (vol. 3, p. 1034). Appointment of the other members was announced by the President in his news conference of July 18 (see Item 312).

See also Items 170, 172, 174, 188, 194, 207, 310, 311.

As printed above, this item follows the text released by the White House Press Office.

387 Remarks at the Memorial Service for Carl Sandburg.

September 17, 1967

Secretary Udall, Mrs. Sandburg, our beloved Chief Justice and Mrs. Warren, Members of the United States Senate, Dean Sayre, Mr. Van Doren, Mr. MacLeish, ladies and gentle-

men, boys and girls:

I am both honored and saddened by the opportunity to join today with Carl Sandburg's friends in celebrating that vital, exu-

berant, wise, and generous man.

This is the right place for thinking about Carl Sandburg. To him—and to me—Abraham Lincoln was the embodiment of our national aspirations, the nearest that any man has come to summing up the American experience in himself.

Sandburg loved to come here, to what he once called “the fog-swept Lincoln Memorial, white as a blond woman’s arm.”

I have no pretensions as a literary critic, but I think Carl Sandburg belongs in a very special category among poets, along with Walt Whitman.

Whitman wrote:

“The United States themselves are essentially the greatest poem . . . Here at last is something in the doings of man that corresponds with the broadcast doings of the day and night.”

And like Whitman, Sandburg seemed to have his finger on the American pulse. He seemed able to give voice to the whole range of America’s hopes and America’s hates. He seemed able to communicate, above all, the restless energy that has vitalized, stimulated, and—on occasion—degraded the history of our Nation.

He could give you the savage emotions of a lynch mob. He could just as well express, with affection and insight, the courage, and the impatience, even the braggadocio, that spurred our amazing development.

He said in “Good Morning America”:

“We are afraid; what are we afraid of? We are afraid of nothing much, nothing at all, nothing in the shape of god, man or beast, we can eat any ashes offered us, we can step out before the fact of the Fact of Death and look it in the eye and laugh, ‘You are the beginning or the end of something, I’ll gamble with you, I’ll take a chance.’”

And only those of us who have spent almost a lifetime in the pressure chamber of politics could possibly appreciate the humor and the insight of his “Money, Politics, Love and Glory”:

“Who put up that cage?

Who hung it up with bars, doors?

Why do those on the inside want to get out?

Why do those outside want to get in?

What is this crying inside and out all the time?

What is this endless, useless beating of baffled wings at these bars, doors, this cage?”

At the end of a long day, with the phones all ringing and the world in disarray, those words have a very special impact for some of us.

Well, Carl Sandburg is gone. He is part of the earth that he celebrated in Illinois and Kentucky and North Carolina. He is part of the American earth.

What will live on forever though is his faith—his faith in the individual human beings whom we impersonally call “Americans.”

He knew that always in America “the strong men keep coming on.”

So let us respect his wishes and “ring no bell at all” to mourn his death. But surely we must, as he asked us, “sing one song” in memory of this strong singer of ours.

I will miss him; we will all miss him. There will not be one like him again.

NOTE: The President spoke at 6:55 p.m. at the Lincoln Memorial. In his opening words he referred to Stewart L. Udall, Secretary of the Interior, Mrs. Paula Sandburg, widow of the poet, Earl Warren, Chief Justice of the United States, Mrs. Warren, the Very Reverend Francis B. Sayre, Jr., Dean of Washington Cathedral, and to Mark Van Doren and Archibald MacLeish who had delivered brief eulogies.

388 Remarks at "Employer of the Year" Ceremony Honoring Outstanding Employers of the Handicapped.

September 18, 1967

Secretary Wirtz, Chairman Macy, Mr. Ochel, Mr. Payne, ladies and gentlemen:

Unlike Robert Merrill, I have never sung at the Metropolitan Opera. And unlike Frank Howard, I cannot play baseball with the Washington Senators.

As a matter of fact, there are a few other things I cannot do these days with the Senators. Unlike my Science Adviser, Dr. Hornig, I cannot do equations with three unknowns or even with two unknowns.

But with all that, I have never considered myself a handicapped person. And I think that touches upon the main point of our gathering here in the Cabinet Room for this ceremony today.

Human beings have varying degrees of ability. Some can hit home runs. Some can sing in the opera. Some, like Thomas Edison, can produce great inventions—even though Edison himself was deaf. Some, like Sarah Bernhardt, can be great actresses—even though Sarah Bernhardt was an amputee.

What counts in life is not what people can't do. What really counts is what people can do.

We are finding out in America these days the so-called handicapped people can do far more than we ever dreamed before was possible. They can do their jobs as well or do them better than many so-called normal workers.

Two gentlemen, whom I have just met, are receiving awards today. They know that for sure. The companies they work for—the

Wichita Division of Boeing Aircraft Company and the International Optical Company—have shown great leadership in our country in employing the handicapped.

This has worked to the companies' benefit as well as to the benefit and the dignity of their employees. I am very grateful to all who have made this policy possible.

They knew, as many in Government today are learning, that what we call health is a broad concept that goes far beyond mere survival to a stated number of years. In Government and out, our aim is not only to add years to life, but to add life to years.

The Committee on Employment of the Handicapped is doing that. Men like Mr. Ochel and Mr. Payne are doing that. On our country's behalf to the Chairman of the Committee, to the Cabinet officers concerned, to the companies involved, and particularly to the individuals who demonstrated that they are "can do" people—I express the gratitude of an interested Nation and the people who serve in it for the examples that you have set.

Thank you very much.

NOTE: The President spoke at 1:08 p.m. in the Cabinet Room at the White House. In his opening words he referred to W. Willard Wirtz, Secretary of Labor, John W. Macy, Chairman of the Civil Service Commission, Ernest A. Ochel, General Manager of the Wichita Division, Boeing Co., and John W. Payne, Executive Vice President, International Optical Co., Dallas, who accepted the awards on behalf of their firms.

A White House announcement concerning the awards is printed in the Weekly Compilation of Presidential Documents (vol. 3, p. 1313).

389 Remarks of Welcome at the White House to President Saragat of Italy. *September 18, 1967*

Mr. President, Mr. Foreign Minister, distinguished ladies and gentlemen:

I am honored to extend America's warm welcome to our friends from Italy.

We know President Saragat as the leader of a very great and venerated nation. We know him also as a patriot who fought for freedom, who knew the bitterness of exile, and who now leads a free people to new prosperity.

As we speak here today on the White House lawn, we are being seen and heard by the good people of Italy, by means of communications satellite and a new station at Fucino.

So I have the chance, Mr. President, not only to address our welcome to you, but also to speak to your people.

I want them to know of our affection and our esteem for Italy. Italy has enriched America beyond measure; and it has earned a debt beyond repayment.

A country is no more than its people, and America has been blessed with millions of families who trace their ancestry back to Italy. They have given color, force, and vitality to our American character.

Our people are united both in blood, and by a love of beauty. The genius of your people has made Italian art and literature, music, science, and architecture a treasure of our Western civilization.

Last year, when the floods came to Florence, it was not only Italy that felt the shock of loss; it was the entire world. It was not only the people of Italy who responded; it was the people of the world. I am very proud that so many Americans played a part in helping to repair and to restore those works of man's spirit.

Because we love Italy, Americans rejoice

in your country's unprecedented prosperity, and the well-being it is bringing to your people. The remarkable recovery that has marked your economy in the past few years has established Italy as a strong partner in the European community. It gives convincing evidence of the energy and the skills that are characteristic of the Italian people.

The interest our two peoples have in each other is very real. Last year, 613,000 Americans toured Italy, and nearly 45,000 Italians visited America. I hope thousands more Italians will come to visit us in America. Each visit, by each person, is still another bond between us. Whether we meet as heads of state, or just as vacationing tourists, we have much to learn from each other.

For the past two decades, our nations have been joined in an intimate partnership and alliance. And you, Mr. President, were among the first to recognize the necessity of that partnership. You have always been its advocate and its champion.

You have been, in the words of Dante ". . . like a firm tower that never sways from the blowing of the winds."

An Italian led the way to the New World. And so has modern Italy led in the rebuilding of the old.

So, Mr. President, it is with great pleasure that Mrs. Johnson, I, and other members of our official family, welcome you here to the White House this afternoon.

We know that our talks will be most pleasant and most rewarding.

Thank you for having come.

NOTE: The President spoke at 5:06 p.m. on the South Lawn at the White House where President Giuseppe Saragat and Foreign Minister Amintore Fanfani were given a formal welcome with full military honors. President Saragat responded as follows:

Mr. President:

I sincerely thank you for the courteous words with which you have welcomed us, and I am happy to extend to you, and to the great Nation that you guide, the greeting of Italy.

The Italian people look to the United States as a friend and ally, to which they are bound by many common ties of civilization, a longstanding tradition of intense political, cultural, and economic relations, and by an ardent faith in the great ideals of liberty and human dignity.

These ties, this tradition, and this faith constitute the foundations on which the solid edifice of friendship between our two nations has been built, a friendship which, while having its roots in the distant past, has always been renewing itself and which is, today more than ever, alive, vigorous, and rich in benefits for our people, furthering freedom, security, and peace for all and being therefore an element of progress for mankind as a whole.

Great men in the history of our countries—men who have left an important imprint in all fields of human civilization—have taken part and are now taking part in the construction of this edifice of friendship. But foremost in my thoughts is the landing in this free country of millions of Italians who have found here a home and work, bringing with them the contribution of their untiring ingenuity.

They are proud to be citizens of the free Ameri-

can Republic, as they are of their Italian heritage. They constitute a powerful bond of friendship between two peoples who have been brought close together by common ideals, historical events, and technological progress. I have mentioned technological progress also because, as you yourself have recalled, an American satellite and several very modern installations built in Italy are permitting Italians and Americans to see and hear us at this very moment on both sides of the Atlantic.

The invitation that you, Mr. President, have kindly extended to me confirms the friendship which links our two countries, a friendship not only of governments, but also—which is more important—of peoples. In this way we are offered the possibility of having an open and frank exchange of views which will include the problems of common and direct interest as well as the more general problems whose solution is daily becoming more urgent and more necessary if mankind is to enjoy—as we fervently wish—the benefits of peace, of justice and liberty for which it is striving to the utmost.

Mr. President, I am very grateful to you for having offered me the opportunity to return once again to the hospitable soil of America. I am sure that I shall be able to look again at the gratifying reality of the friendly relations that bind our two countries, and to contribute, with you, to their further strengthening.

390 Joint Statement Following Discussions With the President of Italy. *September 19, 1967*

PRESIDENT JOHNSON and President Saragat had two conversations at the White House on September 18 and 19. Secretary of State Rusk and Foreign Minister Fanfani were present on both occasions.

The two Presidents had a broad and thorough exchange of views on the international situation. There was also a review of issues of bilateral concern, with a view to strengthening further the close relations between the two countries in accordance with the long-standing ties of friendship and alliance which exist between Italy and the United States.

It was agreed that the common goal of both nations is the maintenance and the strengthening of peace. The two Presidents

reaffirmed their confidence in the essential role played by the UN in achieving that objective.

There was complete agreement on the importance the North Atlantic Alliance, which from its inception has served both as an instrument of defense and as a vehicle for progress, continues to have for the security of its members and for world peace. By reinforcing international stability, it contributes to mutual understanding and confidence among peoples. It was also agreed that security and peace in the Atlantic area are based on a partnership between Western Europe and North America, founded on equality of rights and duties and on a balanced development which may be furthered through ever

closer technological cooperation. The two nations share a common desire to create an atmosphere of cooperation and to bring about the relaxation of tensions among all the nations of the European continent.

The prospects for broadening the foundations of peace were examined. In this connection, it was agreed that a treaty to limit the dissemination of nuclear weapons, which takes into account the legitimate interests of all countries concerned would contribute to that end.

It was agreed that the two countries, deeply concerned by recent events in the Middle East, share a particular interest in the re-establishment of peace and stability in that area. With respect to Southeast Asia, confidence was expressed that an equitable settlement of the present conflict will be reached on the basis of freedom so as to strengthen the fabric of peace everywhere.

The two Presidents welcomed the recent agreements reached in London on international monetary liquidity and agreed on the importance of achieving agreement on this matter at the meeting of the International Monetary Fund at Rio de Janeiro later this month. They expressed satisfaction at the successful conclusion of the Kennedy Round trade negotiations, and underlined the great importance which they attach to assisting the developing nations in obtaining a higher standard of living and greater economic growth.

The two Presidents agreed on the great importance of these consultations among close allies, which contribute to the strengthening of understanding and cooperation between the two countries, and thus to the achievement of the common objectives of progress and peace for all mankind.

391 Toasts of the President and President Saragat of Italy. *September 19, 1967*

President Saragat, Foreign Minister Fanfani, distinguished guests in the party, ladies and gentlemen:

First, let me, on behalf of all the American people, Mr. President, wish you a very happy birthday. We are so glad that you could be here to celebrate it with us.

Mr. President, I know that in your country it is the custom for a man to spend his birthday in the company of his family and friends. Here tonight are two members of your family and everyone else in the room is your friend.

We all wish you the good health, long life, and continued success that you so richly deserve.

When I greeted you yesterday I mentioned the great debt that our country owes to your country—that America owes to Italy—and

to the millions of Italians who have helped to build America into what it is.

In our Congress—and with us tonight—are Members who are proud to trace their ancestry to your land. Some of their names have the very sound of Italy in them: Pastore and Annunzio, Daddario and Rodino, Vigorito and Brasco, Conte and Addabbo and many, many more whom I do not have the time to list, including some who roam around the White House in the late hours of the evening named Valenti and Califano.

The roster of great Italian-Americans is far too long for me to recite to you tonight, but I will mention one, Enrico Fermi. As you once were, Mr. President, he was exiled from his country and he found haven here.

Twenty-five years ago this December, at

our own University of Chicago, this brilliant physicist achieved mankind's first nuclear chain reaction. It ushered in a new age. Dr. Arthur Compton, in a very guarded telephone call to a colleague, said, "The Italian Navigator has just landed in the New World."

Our conversations, Mr. President, have dealt in part with how we may maintain the peace in this new nuclear world that your brilliant countryman has led us into. I believe our talks yesterday and again today have advanced the quest for peace that unites our nations. I know that they have strengthened the historic friendship that abides between us.

Here tonight at the White House, Mr. President, I am going to ask the ladies and gentlemen who have come from throughout our land to be here with you this evening to join me as I offer a toast to a good friend and a great man: His Excellency, the President of the Republic of Italy.

NOTE: The President proposed the toast at 10:05 p.m. at a dinner in the State Dining Room at the White House. In his opening words he referred to Amintore Fanfani, Foreign Minister of Italy. As printed this item follows the text released by the White House Press Office.

President Giuseppe Saragat responded as follows:

Mr. President:

I wish first of all to thank you most deeply for the friendly and cordial welcome extended to me, to Foreign Minister Fanfani, and to the members of our delegation.

May I thank you also very much, Mr. President, for the very kind wishes that you have extended to me on the occasion of my birthday.

It appears that it is my destiny to have my birthday on the American Continent. Two years ago I had my birthday in the city of Santiago, in Chile, and this is probably due to the fact that, as you said, one has one's own birthday with friends and with one's own family.

I feel that something pushes me to all the countries of this continent where there are very dear friends.

I have listened with the greatest attention to the words which you have just spoken. Our two countries have known and appreciated each other for a long time.

Italy does not forget, as I had the occasion to recall in the Campidoglio during the celebration of the 10th anniversary of the Treaty of Rome, that twice in this century the United States has contributed decisively to the rescue of the liberty of Western Europe and, with it, the liberty of Italy.

In the second of these occasions when Italy, after a sad parenthesis, found the strength to rebel against those who had pushed her on the path alien to her tradition and went back to align herself on the side of democracy and liberty, it was again America that assisted her with an aid which was instrumental for her recovery, for the reconstruction of her shattered cities, for the growing of a new enthusiasm which enabled her to bring forth a "second Risorgimento"—to use the expression of an American writer—and to further the solution of some of her centuries-old problems.

I sincerely hope, Mr. President, that you will soon visit my country and acquaint yourself with the great progress that it has made in the last few decades.

Faithful to the ideal principles which have accompanied their history and development, the United States and Italy cannot but find themselves side by side in their defense.

In fact, the Atlantic Alliance was born almost 20 years ago, having as its main goal the defense of the concept of life based upon the respect of liberty and on the dignity of the individual.

To this community of free nations, Italy has given her firm and loyal support. My country considers its participation in the Alliance as a fundamental hinge of its foreign policy.

To multiply and to intensify in every field the relations among the allies constitutes one of the most important aims that must be pursued with tenacity and faith.

No attempt, no proposal which might strengthen the hope of a rapprochement among people, is overlooked by us, and Italy knows, Mr. President, that your Government, and you, personally, ardently pursue the same ends.

In the search for an attainment of these goals, your country and mine look always to the organization of the United Nations in the trusting hope that with the contribution of all, the organization could have at its disposal even more adequate and effective instruments for the solution of the most important world problems.

Peace is a precious asset which must be continuously sought and defended with all means. A powerful contribution can come from the solution of the problems of economic and social nature which still beset many countries that have recently attained their national independence.

This, Mr. President, is a particularly delicate moment on the international scene, a moment, therefore

which requires an open and frank consultation between the United States and her European allies. Our conversation of these 2 days bears witness to this.

The spirit of firmness and conciliation which guides the United States is well known to us, and Italy knows also that the United States is fully aware of the need to consult with her friends for the definition of the dialogue between West and East.

Mr. President, with the wish that our common action and in particular the action of your great Nation may promote the realization of a just peace among nations, I propose a toast to the prosperity of this noble and friendly country, to the personal well-being of yourself and Mrs. Johnson, to the warm and firm friendship between our two peoples.

392 Letter to the Secretary of Transportation on the Need for Expanding and Improving the Air Traffic Control System. *September 20, 1967*

Dear Mr. Secretary:

It is apparent that the rapid growth of commercial and private flying is creating demands for substantial expansion and improvement in the Nation's air traffic control system. The Federal government is the manager of this system. System improvement will, therefore, require large additional outlays of Federal funds for investment and operations. Those who will benefit most from such expenditures, the aviation industry and the flying public, should pay their fair share of the costs of the system needed to handle the increase in air traffic while maintaining a high level of safety. I do not believe the general taxpayer should be asked to shoulder this burden.

I am, therefore, asking you to develop a long-range comprehensive plan for the facilities, equipment and personnel required to meet these needs. This plan should be accompanied by a proposal for financing the improvements through a system of charges by which the users of the Nation's airways bear their fair share of its costs.

Looking toward the immediate future, I am today submitting to the Congress a budgetary amendment designed to provide a more effective use of Federal Aviation Administration funds in the operation of the air traffic control system. I am also requesting you to direct the Administrator of the Federal Aviation Administration to conduct a review of current air traffic regulations, flight rules, and standards with a view toward making such changes as he considers necessary to maintain air safety. Should this review indicate that the maintenance of safety requires changes which involve some traffic delays, the Administrator should nevertheless make such changes.

This Nation has an enviable record of air safety. I know that you and your associates can maintain this record.

Sincerely yours,

LYNDON B. JOHNSON

[Honorable Alan S. Boyd, Secretary of Transportation, Washington, D.C. 20590]

NOTE: The President's budgetary amendments for the Department of Transportation are included in Senate Document 50 (90th Cong., 1st sess.).

393 Remarks to Representatives of National Voluntary Organizations
Concerned With Consumer Interests. *September 22, 1967*

Miss Furness, Congresswoman Sullivan, ladies and gentlemen:

I am sorry I am late. I am very happy that Mrs. Sullivan, who is a champion of our cause, could be here with you this morning.

The people that all of you represent—the American consumers—are very much in our mind and we are concerned with many good things about them, and some problems they also have.

We are happy that we believe in this country our American consumers enjoy the highest standard of living of any people in the world.

And we are very happy that that standard has constantly risen during the last 4 years.

There are more than 7 million more people working today, contributing to that economy instead of draining from it.

In the last 3 months, we have put more than 1.5 million people on new jobs.

Real income has risen about 17 percent for the average American.

The net financial wealth of the American families has risen \$150 billion.

These statistics are important only because of the thing I want to say now.

Prosperity and progress are good, but they are not all good. They bring some problems with them. As new materials are created, as new inventions come on the market, as new methods of financing are devised, as new sales pitches are made, we must be constantly on the lookout for the dangers that accompany them.

That is Betty's job and that is your job. That is Mrs. Sullivan's job. That is a matter of great moment and concern to me.

We feel the consumer should have the satisfaction and the security of knowing that he is not being taken unfair advantage of.

The slogan "let the buyer beware" has no place in our society.

Our consumers, we think here at the White House, have the right to expect safety in the products that are sold to them.

They have the right to choose between a variety of products and to exercise a choice.

They have a right to be fully informed about the products they buy—and this covers everything from telling them the honest weight of a food product to spelling out precisely how much money they will be paying at an annual percentage rate on a loan.

We feel they have the right to have their views of matters of national importance represented in the highest councils of their country and their government.

We have tried since the days I was Vice President—in this administration and the preceding one. We have made a great and constant effort to try to assure these rights. We have tried to secure for the consumer his rightful place in our economy.

It has not been easy—special interests have usually fought us every step of the way—but I believe we have come a very long way in this consumer field, relatively speaking.

The 89th Congress, which some rightly called the consumers Congress, saw its responsibilities to the consumers of America—meaning all Americans—and they did the following things about them:

The Truth in Packaging Act—which assures that the buyer will know what he is purchasing, how much it weighs, and who made it.

The Traffic and Highway Safety Acts—which have begun our all-out attack on the mounting toll of death and destruction on our highways.

The Child Protection Act—which will

safeguard our children from hazardous toys.

And bills providing for increased insurance protection for people who place their savings on deposit.

Now, that is past. We don't want to live in the past. We don't want to spend our time talking about the past, except to provide an example that we can learn from and emulate.

Because of that progress, we have felt encouraged. If we could do this in the 89th Congress, what should we try in the 90th?

So, we have 12 actions that we have urged the Congress to take in behalf of the consumer.

They include the truth-in-lending bill—legislation which Mrs. Sullivan has done such yeoman service on. I want to publicly acknowledge it and congratulate her.

It is legislation to assure that a consumer, shopping for credit, knows exactly what he is paying in interest costs.

We have many others. I will just name a few.

One includes the amendments to the Flammable Fabrics Act. That is legislation to prevent accidents, to make clothing and household items much safer for all of us.

Betty Furness has worked on that legislation, has testified before the Congress for all of us on it.

I can say that our legislative package covers everything from making meat more wholesome to the safe movement of natural gas by pipeline.

We are trying to do everything we can to see that the consumer is protected. We will not achieve that this year. We didn't in the 89th Congress; we won't in the 90th Congress. We will be working on it when they have the 100th Congress. But we are breaking down old barriers.

We are setting new standards. We are creating a consumer ethic that is fair both to the seller as well as to the buyer. We are

going to be unrelenting in our efforts. We are going to stay on the job. We are going to pursue it every day. We are going to win.

Betty is our leader in this field. I look to her and her office as my eyes and my ears in the consuming area. What she knows I can have a part of. What reaches her usually reaches me.

I want to ask each of you to talk to her about the information that you think you would like for me to know. I am sure she will relay it to me.

She had barely settled down in this job before she started planning this get-together here today.

I want to express the hope that you will work closely with her and with the Consumer Advisory Council because I believe this lady is bright, dedicated, and determined. I believe she is going to make it possible for the consumer's voice to be heard loudly, clearly, and effectively, if you give her support and if I give her support.

We have the President's Committee on Consumer Interests. That is a Cabinet level committee which is solely concerned with the consumers.

I would like you, with Betty, to try to work out ways for us to improve the quality of consumer education in this country. I know this is something that you have been devoting a lot of time to, but we must move on from just getting the catalog, looking at it, and seeing the rating. There are a lot of other jobs to be done.

If we are going to continue to make progress, we are going to have to have more than just one person working at it.

And you, through your groups and the people you speak for, can actively support us and be the difference between success and failure.

What grievances you have, we want to know about them too. Your consumers can

tell you and you can tell Betty. She can tell me and I will try to tell your Congressman.

That is a part of this job.

Your organizations cover almost every conceivable area of American life. You are in touch with millions of people. That is your job—to work with those specific groups that add up to millions in the long run.

Our job is to adequately protect and properly serve all of those millions.

We don't always live up to their expectations. We don't always discharge our responsibilities as they think we should. But we are aware of them, and we want so much to be equal to them.

I do feel that the country has moved forward in the last few years in consumer education and in consumer legislation. It hasn't gone as far as it needs to go. How far it will go is going to be determined somewhat by the way I do my job and Betty does her job. But it is going to be determined a lot by how well you do your job, taking the grievances, formulating them into reasonable, marketable suggestions, making them appealing, and bringing them in.

Let's try to effect and devise solutions to them.

This is not something we are going to settle this afternoon. It is something we are going to have to work at 30 days a month for 365 days a year.

There will be great rewards and great

satisfaction that will come to us if we can take these protective measures and move forward in an enlightened way to not only serve the buyer well in this country, but to be just, reasonable and helpful to the seller.

We just might as well face up to it. The good old days, where a person could make the best mousetrap, have his own way about what it did and the dangers associated with it, all of the prices he charged, the way it was sold, the interest that was requested—those days are “gone and forgot. The bridge of the railroad now crosses the spot.”

We have turned the horses and the carriages out. We are going to try to make this Congress and the next Congress an improvement on the 89th, which I think history will show was more aware of and more concerned with the 200 million consumers of this Nation than any Congress in all of our history.

If we can do that, I think the time that you spent here this morning will be well worthwhile. It will be a great day for every American consumer.

Thank you very much.

NOTE: The President spoke at 12:57 p.m. in the Rose Garden at the White House. In his opening words he referred to Betty Furness, Special Assistant to the President for Consumer Affairs and Representative Leonor K. (Mrs. John B.) Sullivan of Missouri.

For the President's remarks upon signing consumer legislation, see Items 499, 539, 541. See also note to Item 575.

394 Remarks Upon Signing Bill Authorizing U.S. Contribution to the Inter-American Development Bank. *September 22, 1967*

Mr. Chief Justice, Mr. Secretary, distinguished Foreign Ministers, Members of the Diplomatic Corps, Members of the American Congress, my friends, ladies and gentlemen:

The presence of the foreign ministers here in Washington has coincided with the

passage by the Congress of a bill which forms a very major element of the United States participation in the Alliance for Progress of which we are all so very proud.

The bill that I shall shortly sign authorizes a United States contribution of some \$900

million to the Inter-American Development Bank over the next 3 years.

Some of you will remember at Punta del Este last April, I told my fellow Presidents of the recommendations that I had already, at that time, made to our Congress for increased financial assistance to the Alliance. I said then that these recommendations "represent my convictions and my policy . . . and the decisions which you make here—and the followup action which you take in the months ahead—will enable me to pursue that policy."

When the Board of Governors of the Bank met to review the decisions of the Presidents, they decided not only to expand the resources of the Bank, but also to change the ratio of the contributions of the Bank. They lowered the proportionate share of the United States from 5:1 to 3:1. This act of self-help and mutual assistance, I think, played a very key role in Congress decision to increase the United States quota by \$150 million.

So it gives me great pleasure to ask you to come here today to join with me in this brief ceremony to share my satisfaction in signing this bill into law.

The Inter-American Development Bank has become a major instrument of the Alliance for Progress—and a model for other regions of the world. In the brief span of 7 years the Bank has built a very solid record of accomplishment:

- Through June of this year it had authorized 414 loans that totaled \$2.1 billion, of which 224 loans, amounting to \$1.2 billion, have been approved just during the past 3½ years that I have been President.
- Almost half of the total amount authorized, some \$915 million, is already at work in projects in every single country of Latin America.

—With initiative and drive it has mobilized \$205 million in Europe, Canada, and Japan that we are using in Latin America.

A review of the Bank's portfolio shows that it is as much a neighborhood bank serving the interests of the people, as it is an international bank supporting great national and multinational enterprises.

For its money:

- finances the village water supplies as well as the big hydroelectric projects;
- builds rural schools as well as modern factories;
- constructs feeder roads as well as international highways;
- provides credits for small crafts as well as large industries;
- trains laborers and technicians as well as assists institutions of higher learning;
- underwrites moderate-priced housing as well as major public works.

The Bank is the vanguard of planning for the future of the hemisphere. And the bill that I am about to sign, we think, advances this program and supports the expanded direction of it.

We think it is a vote of confidence by the American Congress in the Bank and particularly in those who manage the Bank's affairs.

It is an earnest of the commitment of the United States Congress and people to the Alliance for Progress and to the summit decisions.

We are very proud, as I have said, of the progress that has been made and the resources that have been assembled, and particularly, the fact that other nations of the world are looking with inquiry and checking the statements and trying to see how they can emulate what we have done here.

I am so glad that we can move it a little

step forward today and that you can share with me the pride that we all have in this joint venture.

NOTE: The President spoke at 1:38 p.m. in the

East Room at the White House. In his opening words he referred to Chief Justice Earl Warren and Secretary of the Treasury Henry H. Fowler.

As enacted, the authorization bill (H.R. 9547) is Public Law 90-88 (81 Stat. 226).

395 Remarks at a Luncheon Honoring the Foreign Ministers Attending a Meeting of the Organization of American States. September 22, 1967

Chief Justice, Mr. Secretary of State, distinguished Foreign Ministers, Members of the Diplomatic Corps, Members of Congress, my friends, ladies and gentlemen:

To the distinguished foreign ministers I want to say that it is a very special pleasure for me to be able to dine with you in the White House today.

Even though the United States is not the formal host of this meeting, I did use my constitutional powers to persuade Secretary Rusk that I should be your informal host.

You have come here to Washington to consider the problems of Communist subversion in our hemisphere. Your task is to determine what action the inter-American community should take to improve its defense against this form of aggression.

I think we will all agree that our principal weapons in this connection are those we forged together at Punta del Este in August 1961, and when we returned there in April 1967: the Alliance for Progress and the summit program.

These are the long-term guarantors of freedom that we cherish so much.

But we know that governments have immediate responsibilities as well as long-term ones—that these governments must meet terrorism and sabotage and they must meet it with resolute force where it is necessary; that mutual support by neighboring countries strengthens their ability always to deal with indirect aggression.

Though we of the Americas are now confronted with a virulent form of subversion that is directed from Havana, there is really nothing new about that strategy.

In 1951, speaking to the Vietnamese Communists, Ho Chi Minh threw out a quote from Lenin which, I think, is quite appropriate and I would like to repeat it.

“Lenin,” Ho reminded his listeners, “said, that if a compromise with bandits was advantageous to the revolution, he would do it.”

Several of your countries are coping with precisely this kind of ideological gangsterism—this united front between agents of Castro, local elements who have been given a new license for crimes against their fellow citizens, and the genuinely discontented who have been genuinely misled by Communist abstractions.

We must observe that this struggle is costing you energies and resources that would much better be invested in projects that benefit your immediate peoples. You carry this burden and you support these costs—in your own defense, and really in defense of the rest of us in this hemisphere.

Halfway around this world another little nation is fighting a two-front war against poverty and subversion. It is fighting for the same goals of political, economic, social development, for the same right of self-determination and nonintervention that is basic to our own cherished inter-American system.

As Benito Juarez said, “Respect for the

rights of others is peace." No one could define the objectives that the United States is pursuing today in Vietnam more accurately than that.

Last month Dr. Mora organized a very special ceremony to mark the sixth anniversary of the Alliance for Progress. It was built around the essays that young people from your countries wrote about the Alliance for Progress. I was delighted that I was able to briefly participate in that ceremony.

On that occasion I said: "If what we do," under the Alliance for Progress, "is to really last, we must make this commitment to ourselves and to all of Latin America: We will persevere. There is no time limit to our commitment. We are in this fight to stay all the way."

As we meet here in the State Dining Room at the White House this afternoon, I want to repeat that pledge to you.

As members of a community that is richly blessed in spiritual heritage and material potential—that is blessed with unity and blessed with strength—I invite you to join me in a toast to the security and to the welfare of our own hemisphere, as well as to the defense of freedom everywhere in the world.

NOTE: The President spoke at 2:37 p.m. in the State Dining Room at the White House. In his opening words he referred to Chief Justice Earl Warren and Secretary of State Dean Rusk. Later he referred to Dr. José A. Mora, Secretary General of the Organization of American States.

As printed above, this item follows the text released by the White House Press Office.

396 Statement by the President Upon Announcing Appointments to the National Advisory Council Authorized by the Education Professions Development Act of 1967. *September 22, 1967*

THIS ACT, one of the significant achievements of the administration and the 90th Congress, will greatly contribute to the Nation's ability to solve one of the key problems of education: the development and enlistment of better equipped teachers for our schools and colleges. Teachers are central to the role of education in our country. And education is the very base of an informed and strong Nation.

NOTE: The President's statement was made public as part of a White House release announcing appointments to the National Advisory Council on Education Professions Development. The release stated that the Council would review the operation of Federal programs designed to improve the quality of education and to meet critical shortages of adequately trained teachers, and that it would advise the Secretary of Health, Education, and Welfare and the Commissioner of Education on all matters relating to this area.

The release added that the Council would be chaired by Dr. Lawrence D. Haskew, vice chancellor of the University of Texas System. Other members listed in the announcement follow: Sister Mary Corita, I.H.M., professor of art, Immaculate Heart College, Los Angeles, Calif.; E. Leonard Jossem, professor and chairman of physics, Ohio State University; Marjorie Lerner, principal, Donoghue Elementary School, Chicago, Ill.; Mary Rieke, president, Oregon School Boards Association; Carl Marburger, commissioner of education, State of New Jersey; Lloyd Morrisett, vice president, the Carnegie Foundation for the Advancement of Teaching, New York; TheodoreSizer, dean of the faculty of education, Harvard University; Adron Doran, president, Morehead State College, Morehead, Ky.; Bernard Watson, associate superintendent of schools, Philadelphia, Pa.; Don Davies, executive secretary, National Commission on Teacher Education and Professional Standards, National Education Association; Annette Engel, teacher-counselor, Roosevelt Elementary School District, Phoenix, Ariz.; Edward Moreno, foreign language consultant K-12, Ventura County Schools, Calif.; Kathryn Lumley, director of reading clinics for the District of Columbia schools;

Susan W. Gray, director, Demonstration and Research Center for Early Education, George Peabody College, Nashville, Tenn.

For the President's statement upon signing the Education Professions Development Act of 1967, see Item 292.

397 Remarks to Representatives of National Fraternal Organizations. *September 22, 1967*

Distinguished Government officials, heads of fraternal organizations, ladies and gentlemen:

When Mich Cieplinski told me that we would have an opportunity to meet here today I was very pleased.

Earlier this week on television, Eric Hoffer said: "America is the only new thing in history."

In a great many ways, I think those of us in this room this afternoon prove that. We—or our parents or our ancestors—have come here from every continent.

In my own State of Texas today there are more than 25 foreign-language newspapers and magazines that are regularly published. Many are written in Spanish because of our large Mexican-American population. In Texas—a State that is supposedly far removed from the big-city ethnic groups—there are also publications in German, Czech, Italian, Swedish, and French.

But America is not only different because its people come from so many different places. America has a different view of people themselves. And people view themselves differently if they live here in America. When we talk about the "American way of life" we are talking about the prevalent belief in this country that every man ought to be able to make as much of himself as he can or as he wants to.

It was that belief that brought us here over three centuries ago. Men came to America to see what they could make of themselves. That bedrock belief still motivates every aspect of our national behavior. That is why

the organizations that you ladies and gentlemen represent have worked so hard for better education, for better health, and for better security.

All that effort—on your part and to some extent on your Government's part—has been toward just one end: to free men from the tyrants who seek to control men. Some tyrants are political; and we take up arms against them. But there are other tyrants: ignorance, ill health, poverty, and discrimination. Each of these tyrants has the power to enslave people. Each must be fought by a decent society. Each can and will be overcome.

We have a tremendous confidence in this country in ourselves—in our capacity to surmount any obstacles, to remove any injustice, to settle any issue.

But sometimes, when violence breaks out in our cities or when a conflict overseas continues without any sign of an early resolution, we have to go back to first principles—and we have to go back to the true history of the American experience.

I have an opportunity to do that this afternoon and I am going to exercise it.

The lesson of that history is that it has never really been very easy to protect freedom. It has never been easy to move forward and to achieve progress for humanity.

In every war that we have ever fought there have been passionate voices crying out that the engagement was unwise, that what we might accomplish was really not worth the price that we were called upon to pay.

A good many of you in this room may

remember those voices in the thirties—when the Axis powers were on the march, gobbling up Europe.

You may remember them in 1947, when Greece and Turkey were threatened by Communist conquest.

You may remember them in 1948, when the roads to Berlin were being closed.

You may remember them in 1950, when the North Korean Army smashed across the 38th parallel, and again in 1962 when the missiles were brought into Cuba.

You hear them now as we meet here, as Communist power threatens the life of little South Vietnam.

There are no South Vietnamese fraternal organizations among us this afternoon. They are not represented here.

But I tell you this—and I tell you as sincerely and I believe it as deeply as I believe anything in the world—that the stand that America is making in that little country now is just as important to you as the stand that we made in your parents' and in your grandparents' homelands in the years past.

Of course, there is a great price for engaging in the struggle for Vietnam. There was a price that we paid in Europe, too, in the 1940's. There was a price in Korea in the 1950's.

There were prices paid all through the islands of the Pacific in the dark days of World War II.

The question is always whether it is worth paying the price. I say it is.

I say that the price of Communist conquest in Southeast Asia, of risking a third world war by our failure to stand in Vietnam now, is a far heavier price to pay.

I do not minimize the price that we are paying today. The loss of American lives has brought grief to many homes and dismay to every heart.

Only last night I wrote a letter to a father

who had five sons in the service of the United States, two of whom had been taken from him in Vietnam in this battle. He had paid the price. He knew what it was, but he wasn't complaining.

Their sacrifice, I deeply believe, will make the greater war and the far heavier price much less likely in the years to come.

I said that it is never easy or inexpensive to protect freedom. Neither has it been easy to extend the promise of America to all of her peoples and to all of her races.

Your forebears who came to America in the last century knew that as well as any child of the slum knows it today.

At the beginning of this century, when social observers talked about slums, crime, and the tragedy of rural training for an urban life, they were then talking about the Poles, the Jews, the Hungarians, and the Czechs.

Many people feared that the new immigrants who crowded into the tenements and the teeming streets of our cities then—straining our social services, speaking a strange brand of English, certainly doomed forever to the lowest forms of menial labor—just never would make it in America.

There were too many obstacles, too many shortcomings in them, too much resistance among those who had already made it themselves.

And there were some who even said it might not be worth the price you had to pay.

But look what happened. Look at their children today and look at their grandchildren sharing in America's abundance and giving to America's richness.

There were hard times for the early immigrants to the cities. There were terrible, despairing times. But they made it, and we made it, because we did not give way to despair, and to gloom, and to the violence that fosters it.

And just as surely, today's immigrants to modern America—the Negroes, the Spanish-Americans and the Puerto Ricans—are going to make it.

In part, they are going to make it because the rest of us, acting through our Government, or acting privately, are going to help these people get on their feet so that they may make the long march that so many others have made to freedom and prosperity.

They are going to help make it on their own.

That is the oldest and the finest of all of America's traditions.

The Homestead Act gave land to those who wanted it.

The Morrill Act set up the land-grant colleges so that Americans could get an inexpensive higher education.

Sixty years ago, in every major American city, we saw settlement houses and English classes for immigrants. Today, in that identical tradition, your Government presses forward, with your help and your support, for job training programs, Head Start, poverty programs, and many other programs to let Americans grow to their full stature, share

in the American promise, and contribute to the common good.

No one, I think, has described our faith better than the Hungarian patriot, Louis Kossuth, back in 1851, when he had this to say:

"We hear a good deal from certain quarters about the greatness of races, the practical energy of this race, the artistic genius of the other, and the great intellectual qualities of another. America disproves all these dogmas and establishes in their stead, the higher principle that all races are capable of noble development under noble institutions."

So, my good friends, let me just conclude by saying this: That is what we are all about. And if it is the only new thing in history, it may very well be also the best.

Thank you very much.

NOTE: The President spoke at 5:35 p.m. in the East Room at the White House. During his remarks he referred to Michel Cieplinski, Deputy Assistant Secretary of State for Administration.

The group consisted of approximately 250 heads of national fraternal organizations, many of them established to provide social, economic, and educational benefits for immigrants and their families.

398 Message to the Congress Transmitting Annual Report of the Saint Lawrence Seaway Development Corporation.

September 25, 1967

To the Congress of the United States:

I am pleased to submit to the Congress the annual report of the St. Lawrence Seaway Development Corporation for the year ending December 31, 1966.

After eight years of operation the Seaway is playing a major role in our national and international transportation network. The gains registered in 1966 are noteworthy:

—Traffic in wheat increased from 8.6 million cargo tons in 1965 to 11.2 million

tons in 1966.

—Traffic in iron ore rose from 12.8 million tons in 1965 to 15.5 million tons in 1966.

—In total, more than 49 million tons of cargo passed through the Seaway, an increase of nearly 6 million tons over 1965.

—Revenue from this traffic was a record \$7.1 million.

—For the first time in its history, the Seaway was not required to defer any por-

tion of its annual interest payment. It returned to the United States Treasury \$5.2 million to repay current and deferred interest.

This report contains a catalogue of successes. But it reveals as well an unfortunate deficiency in the Seaway's construction. The concrete of the Eisenhower Lock is rapidly deteriorating.

We cannot allow this situation to persist. Ships must not be delayed. The flow of cargo must not be interrupted. Three bills introduced this session—S. 2131, H.R. 11826,

and H.R. 11871—would provide the funds necessary to repair the lock.

I urge your prompt and favorable consideration of these measures, and I commend this report to your attention.

LYNDON B. JOHNSON

The White House

September 25, 1967

NOTE: The report is entitled "Saint Lawrence Seaway Development Corporation, Annual Report, 1966" (Government Printing Office, 16 pp.).

The bills referred to by the President were not enacted during the first session of the 90th Congress.

399 Letter to the Chairman, Senate Committee on the District of Columbia, on the Need for an Elected School Board in Washington. *September 26, 1967*

Dear Alan:

Yesterday the House of Representatives acted to bring democracy closer to the citizens of the District of Columbia by making them responsible for the election of their own school board.

By an overwhelming vote of 324 to 3, the House carried forward the much needed modernization of the District's educational system which I recommended to the Congress on August 16, 1967.

The speed and virtual unanimity of the House action underscores both the urgency of replacing the present archaic selection system and the wide acceptance of the legislation drawn to meet this need. The bill passed by the House of Representatives incorporates each of the provisions recommended as central to reform in my August 16 message. It would:

- Create an 11-member school board; eight to be selected by school electoral ward, and three at large.
- Set the following requirements for board membership:

- Eligibility to vote,
 - District residence for at least three years,
 - Residence in the school electoral ward for at least one year.
- Provide for staggered four-year terms of office.

The House-passed bill calls for election of the first School Board on April 16, 1968. This sets a tight time schedule for completion of the many tasks necessary to assure an orderly election. The city must be divided into school electoral wards. The Board of Elections must conduct a new registration for all citizens.

Candidates must be identified and nominating petitions filed 56 days in advance of the election. Campaigns must be mounted not only in each ward, but city-wide for those seeking the three at-large seats.

As you can see, prompt action is essential if the District of Columbia is to have the time it needs to prepare for the election of its school officials next April. I hope your Committee will act as soon as possible to

open the way for early passage by the Senate.

Together, the Congress and the President have brought Twentieth Century Government to the District of Columbia. The recent reorganization unburdened it of outmoded municipal machinery.

This bill would carry forward the momentum of reform by producing a modern, strong system of educational leadership for the Nation's Capital and for the 150,000 school children who live here.

The Administration stands ready to assist your Committee in every appropriate way.

This is the time for action—when new government is bringing new promise to the Nation's Capital City.

Sincerely,

LYNDON B. JOHNSON

[Honorable Alan Bible, Chairman, Committee on the District of Columbia, United States Senate, Washington, D.C.]

NOTE: For the President's letter of August 16, 1967, to the President of the Senate and Speaker of the House recommending this legislation, see Item 350.

The Senate did not complete action on the bill during the first session of the 90th Congress.

400 Remarks of Welcome at the White House to President Diori of the Republic of Niger. *September 26, 1967*

Mr. President and Mrs. Diori:

We are greatly honored today to welcome here to the White House one of Africa's most distinguished statesmen. President Diori Hamani of Niger is the first President of his nation. His strong and wise leadership has united farmer and herdsman, settler and nomad into one people determined to win the blessings of prosperity and freedom.

He has given his people a deep faith in democracy. In only 7 years, they have firmly set the roots of a democratic tradition. At the same time they have rolled up their sleeves and they have gone to work to improve their economic conditions.

But President Diori's good works transcend even the boundaries of his own beloved homeland. He is also President of a group of 14 African nations, who are joined together to provide for such basic needs as a postal and telecommunications system, a limited common market, and a shared airline. Our honored guest today is also President of a council of five West African neighbors who help each other with the very heavy burdens of economic development.

You have said, Mr. President, that the formula for success in your country must be "hard work, prudence, and moderation." That is a proper creed for any people. And no experience better teaches us how valid it is than the short, bright history of the land that you lead. So it is with great pleasure, Mr. President, that Mrs. Johnson and I welcome you, your lovely lady, and your distinguished associates to our shores.

We will enjoy being with you. We believe that the exchange between us will be of benefit to both of our countries and we trust, to peoples of the world.

Welcome, again, to Washington.

NOTE: The President spoke at 11:45 a.m. on the South Lawn at the White House where President Diori Hamani was given a formal welcome with full military honors. President Diori responded as follows:

Mr. President, the cordial welcome you have given to me and my wife, the honors with which we were received, the greetings which you have just spoken, confirm the feelings of warm sympathy and friendly hospitality characteristic of the Government and the people of the United States.

You have already received eminent heads of states from Africa and through their personalities you have seen the diversity of ethnic groups and

peoples and many of the idiosyncracies of the African Continent.

But from my plane I have seen your country for the first time and it is a total confirmation of what I already knew about the wealth, the strength, and organization of your prodigious country.

I say confirmation because for the people of Niger the people of the United States have always been well-known. Long before we attained independence, the farmers, the nomads, and the urban population knew your missionaries whose ideals, generosity, and devotion they could appreciate.

Our soldiers have fought next to yours during two world wars for democracy against the spirit of domination.

And, lastly, Niger's leaders have learned at school the history of your country, the obstacles that were overcome to win its independence and to maintain its freedom.

The accession of the Republic of Niger to international life has permitted to our peoples and our governments, by means of direct relation, to better

know each other, to better respect each other, and to better cooperate.

We fully appreciate the efforts undertaken by the United States in the field of cooperation, by granting scholarships, by sending highly qualified technicians and experts, by giving material and equipment of all kinds, by the financial assistance, and, at last, by the dynamic action of the Peace Corps.

The people of Niger fully realize and appreciate this generous effort and in their name I want to sincerely thank you and the American people.

I have the firm conviction that from our upcoming talks will derive a common desire to work freely in any circumstances, everywhere, at any time to attain a worldwide harmonization of the economic development in a world that is free and secure.

The friendship between our two countries means that in greeting you I am greeting the American people in the name of the people of Niger.

And allow me to associate in this homage Mrs. Johnson, the First Lady of the United States. Long live the friendship and cooperation between Niger and the United States of America.

401 Special Message to the Congress Proposing a U.S. Contribution to the "Special Funds" of the Asian Development Bank. *September 26, 1967*

To the Congress of the United States:

This generation of Americans knows the importance of peace in Asia.

Twice since 1950 we have fought for the right of small Asian nations to be free from coercion by their neighbors. In Vietnam this struggle continues. It will continue so long—and only so long—as aggression persists.

Yet lasting peace in Asia requires much more than resistance to armed aggression.

Peace will come to stay when despair gives way to hope—when insurrection gives way to peaceful opportunity—when hunger gives way to harvests.

Peace in Asia will rest on the citizen's trust—in his government, in his nation's economy, and, most of all, in his ability to improve the conditions of his life.

Asians must create this trust. Only they can decide to build the schools, the roads, the

dams, and the clinics that provide the foundations of trust. Only they can decide to put aside their ancient differences and join in a common effort to improve the life of all.

There is good reason to believe that Asia has made that choice.

Hope is a living fact in the rugged hills of Korea, in the thriving cities of Thailand, and in the lush rice land of the Indonesian Archipelago.

Free Asia has determined to break the vise of poverty which has killed and maimed many more Asians than all the wars ever fought.

The nations of Asia are working together to provide more food, better housing, and more education for their growing numbers. They have given a clear signal to the world that they are ready to make the sacrifices progress demands.

And they have asked for help.

These are the facts. They are established by the reports of Mr. Eugene Black, my Special Adviser on Asian Development. They are confirmed by the many Senators and Congressmen of both parties who joined in the founding of the Asian Bank.

Mr. Black has traveled widely in Asia in the past 30 months. He has talked with nearly every Asian leader. His careful judgment is that the hopeful signs in Asia are real.

With his help, we have begun the transition from *American* programs to build Asia to *world* programs to build Asia.

The Asian Bank was born out of the belief that international cooperation is not only possible and desirable, but absolutely necessary to the growth of freedom and prosperity in Asia. It united thirty-one nations, and distributed the financial burden of assisting Asia among them.

After consultation with Mr. Black, with senior officials of the United States Government and with many members of the Congress, I propose that we join with other nations to strengthen this international instrument of peace and progress.

I propose that the Congress authorize a United States contribution of up to \$200 million to new Special Funds of the Asian Development Bank.

This authorization will not involve any budget expenditures in Fiscal 1968.

Our contribution would be made over four years, and would constitute a minority share of total contributions to the Special Funds.

This must not and will not be an American effort alone. The development of the most populous region of the earth affects every nation. It must be supported by all who are able to help.

Several leaders of the Congress and the Nation have urged that we transform the

bulk of our foreign assistance from bilateral aid programs to multilateral, cooperative efforts where all the wealthy nations of the world join to help the developing nations through the World Bank, regional development associations, and other multilateral arrangements.

We look to the day when our foreign assistance can be handled under these arrangements.

The proposal I make today is a step in this direction. It is an example of multilateral assistance that we fervently hope will be followed increasingly in the years ahead in Asia and throughout the developing world.

THE PEACEFUL REVOLUTION IN ASIA

Free Asia has done more in the last two years to create a true community of interest among its peoples than in all the long centuries that went before. Here is part of that extraordinary record:

- Asian initiative founded the Asian Development Bank with assets of \$1 billion, to finance development projects throughout the great arc from Afghanistan to Korea.
- Nine nations joined to form the Asian and Pacific Council, the first regular forum for discussion of the full range of Asian problems.
- The nations of Southeast Asia and Indonesia formed a sub-regional association to foster better understanding and economic cooperation.
- The Mekong Coordinating Committee and other existing agencies moved with new energy and urgency, producing such important projects as the Nam Ngum Dam in Laos.

Asians are gaining new insights into the needs of their region:

- The Asian Development Bank is spon-

soring a comprehensive study of Asian agriculture which will identify the specific projects necessary to meet the food crisis of the next decade.

—The Southeast Asian Ministers of Education are planning regional centers of academic excellence, to open the way toward improved education, more broadly shared among their peoples.

—Led by Malaysia, representatives of eight Asian nations met last week to plan the transportation and communications networks Asia needs to achieve trade, travel and economic integration.

These are the beginnings of a peaceful revolution in Asia—a constructive revolution which serves not just the interests of the United States, but of all humanity.

It is a revolution which seeks to build, not to destroy; to succor, not to subvert.

But planning is only the first stage. Blueprints must become bricks and mortar.

Most of the money Asia needs must come from the Asians themselves. Some will come from the World Bank, from national aid programs, and from private sources. Some will come from the ordinary capital of the Asian Bank. But there remains a gap, particularly for projects in the most critical areas—agriculture, education, transportation and development of the Mekong River Basin.

It is that gap that I propose we help close.

THE PROPOSAL

Experience in the World Bank and with regional development banks suggests that development finance requires two different and separate funds:

—*Ordinary capital*, largely to finance the foreign exchange costs of projects which have a relatively rapid and direct return on investment, and

—*Special Funds*, for longer-term loans at lower interest rates, to finance the foreign exchange costs of projects such as schools and roads which do not yield immediate financial returns, but which add powerfully to economic growth.

This is the investment structure of the World Bank and the Inter-American Development Bank. The 31 member nations of the Asian Development Bank have determined that it should also be the structure of their organization.

The Asian Bank now has subscriptions totalling \$1 billion in *ordinary capital*. This appears sufficient for the foreseeable future.

Today's need is for *Special Funds* to complement the ordinary capital. Development cannot be limited to projects which can be financed at commercial interest rates. Where there are factories and power plants there must also be dependable all-weather roads, farm equipment, and clean water supplies. The Bank must be able to lend for these long-term, as well as for short-term, necessities.

The Government of Japan has already announced that it will contribute \$100 million to these Special Funds, mainly to support projects in agriculture. The Government of Canada indicated its willingness to contribute at the Asian Bank's inaugural meeting. Other governments have contributions under consideration.

I propose that the United States pledge up to \$200 million to be provided over four years, on the following conditions:

—The United States contribution must comprise less than one-half of the Special Funds. The Executive Branch would make every effort to assure that our share of total contributions is as modest as possible.

—Because of our balance of payments problem, our contributions must be

available only for the purchase of United States goods and services for use in Asia.

—The Funds will be used only on the firm understanding that they will supplement, not supplant, the efforts of Asian nations to help themselves. *Self-help will be the watchword in these programs, just as it is for all our foreign assistance.*

This proposal would result in no cash disbursements during this fiscal year. Appropriations would be sought from the Congress as other contributors pledge their share to the Special Funds.

I believe this proposal represents our fair share.

I believe it protects our vital interests in Asia.

I believe it provides the American taxpayer with the assurance he demands, and deserves, that his money will be put to careful and productive use.

THE ASIAN FUTURE

It is hard for any of us to visualize the face of Asia in the decades ahead. Caught up in the trials and frustrations of the day, many people assume that the poor will always be poor, and that this new wave of Asian determination will falter and dissolve.

But Americans know what can be done with natural resources. We know that a single river can transform the lives of millions. Properly developed, it can provide food, jobs, and transport. It can be an avenue to the bounty of modern life.

What has worked here will work in Asia.

Flowing through Thailand, Laos, Vietnam, and Cambodia, the Mekong River drains an area 60% the size of the Missouri Basin. But only 8½ million people live in the

Missouri Basin. Thirty million draw their sustenance from the lands surrounding the Mekong. The Mekong's flow is eight times greater than the Missouri's, and its hydroelectric potential is two to three times as great.

Ten solid years of work have already gone into careful and comprehensive planning for the Mekong area. The Mekong Coordinating Committee, along with 23 donor nations and 18 United Nations agencies, have:

- invested \$30 million in the most detailed study of the area.
- invested \$70 million in three major projects which set the stage for full development of the region.
- identified 34 potential tributary dam sites and completed detailed studies on 11 of them.
- conducted feasibility studies on 3 of the 12 potential mainstream dam sites.

These are examples of the sound ideas and projects which will be financed by the Special Funds I propose today. They are the Asian equivalents of the Erie Canal, the Transcontinental Railroad, and the land-grant college system which transformed our own society.

These are the productive works which build nations. They carry with them social progress as well as economic growth. Our decision to support them is a test of faith in our own vision. Meeting that test is as important to us as it is to Asia.

More than two years ago, when I first announced our willingness to respond to Asian initiatives, I said:

"I would hope that all other industrialized countries, including the Soviet Union, will join in this effort to replace despair with hope, and terror with progress. The task is nothing less than to enrich the hopes

and the existence of more than a hundred million people. And there is much to be done."

Much has been done since then—more than we could reasonably have hoped. Thirty-one nations have joined to build a Bank and the nations of Free Asia have joined to strengthen a continent.

The task now is to capitalize on the progress of the past 30 months.

The Congress knows this record of progress. Its Members have been deeply involved in the birth and growth of the Asian Development Bank.

Now the question is whether the United States will join other nations to provide the Bank with a new dimension of productive effort in the basic areas of human need.

The United States knows many needs in

this critical hour. Many worthy causes compete for our time, our attention, and our limited resources. In the last analysis, only the people's representatives in Congress can decide where the priorities lie.

I offer this proposal because I believe whatever we do to strengthen Asia, and to enable her people to achieve security and growth in the years ahead, is in our national interest—and thus deserves consideration among our national priorities. In that spirit and with that understanding, I urge its consideration by the Congress.

LYNDON B. JOHNSON

The White House

September 26, 1967

NOTE: The proposed legislation was not enacted during the first session of the 90th Congress.

402 Remarks Recorded in Connection With the 1968 United Community Campaigns of America. *September 26, 1967*

I SPEAK to you on behalf of America's largest philanthropic effort—the United Community Campaigns of America.

Whether it's called the United Fund, or the Community Chest, or the United Crusade, or the United Givers Fund—it offers every American a personal opportunity to help shape a better America.

The United Way does more than help the poor. It helps our troubled youngsters, our homeless children, the lonely aged, disaster victims, members of the Armed Forces and their families.

Help from the United Way comes from those who know their communities best. It comes from you and your neighbor.

This is, I think, the commonsense way to help others. When you give to your United Fund or to your Community Chest, your hometown becomes a much better place for everyone's family—including your own family.

So, I earnestly ask each of you to please give generously.

NOTE: The President's remarks were recorded in the Theater at the White House at 1:33 p.m. on July 27, 1967, for release on September 26.

403 Toasts of the President and President Diori of the Republic of Niger. September 26, 1967

Mr. President, Madame Diori, Mr. Vice President, Mr. Under Secretary of State, distinguished guests, ladies and gentlemen:

Tonight we are honored to greet not one but three Presidents.

President Diori is first and foremost the President of his country.

He is also President of a group of 14 French-speaking nations that are cooperating for common progress.

Finally, he is President of a council of five neighboring West African nations that are sharing natural assets and development goals.

Your land, Mr. President, is larger than Texas and California together. It is equally vast in potential.

You have not spent your natural treasure on showy government mansions. Instead, you have doubled your cropland since 1955. That is solid progress, the kind of progress that Americans admire and encourage.

But you have other equal priorities. You cherish political freedom. You have rejected the deceptive "convenience" of one-man rule for the more strenuous, but infinitely more satisfying, life of democracy.

The force of your examples and beliefs, Mr. President, also make you a vital force for African unity. Your vision and practicality have inspired the firm fruits of partnership—the common sugar market—the airline—the postal and telecommunications union—the mutual aid and guarantee fund—development plans for the two great water systems of West Africa.

These are first and critical steps. They foretell a uniquely African fusion of independence and cooperation. They promise to transform the continent—and to establish our guest as the quiet man of destiny in the emergence of a new Africa.

Join me now in a toast to that man and to that future. I am proud to pay tribute to a great leader and a great unifier, President Diori—to his lady—and to all the people of their beloved Republic and continent.

NOTE: The President proposed the toast at 10:04 p.m. at a dinner in the State Dining Room at the White House. In his opening words he referred to President Diori Hamani and his wife Aissa, Vice President of the United States Hubert H. Humphrey, and Under Secretary of State Nicholas deB. Katzenbach. As printed this item follows the text released by the White House Press Office.

President Diori responded as follows:

Mr. President, Madame Johnson, Mr. Vice President, ladies and gentlemen:

I am very much moved by the compliments you have just given and which I realize are equally sent through me to the Nigerian people. I sincerely thank you.

Allow me to express the honor and happiness I feel in finding myself next to you tonight in this select company, in this White House full of historical remembrances, in this atmosphere of warm and cordial sympathy.

Tonight marks the end of the second day of the visit I am making in your beautiful and great country. I can only repeat, once more, the strong impression I have of efficiency, power, and rational organization that this brief contact with American life and civilization has given me.

Though informed of the rhythm of American life, I have realized, during these last 2 days, that the reality was much more than I have imagined, whether it is the material realities of the economical and even political conceptions and the means and the way in which they operate—but which strikes

the observer of good faith—or the immensity and the speed, essential characteristics of your world.

Africa in general, and my country in particular are attempting an important effort to adopt and to utilize your techniques, to follow in your path, to reach the same standard of living. But we know in this particularly painful effort to come out of under-

development we can rely on your lasting and generous help.

Long live the United States of America. Long live the Republic of Niger. Long live the friendship between our two peoples.

May I propose a toast to President Johnson and the people of the United States of America, and the friendship between our two peoples.

404 Remarks to the Press by the President and Foreign Secretary George Brown of the United Kingdom Following Their Meeting. *September 27, 1967*

THE PRESIDENT. George asked us if the Foreign Secretary would see you before he left. I asked him if he would meet with you and he agreed to do so.

He came here at my invitation as he always does when he comes to our country. We are very good friends and very strong allies.

I followed his speech yesterday with a great deal of interest at the United Nations.

This morning we met for a little more than an hour, taking a trip around the world, discussing our mutual interests of various kinds. I don't think I will go into the details of those discussions other than to say that we had a thorough and fruitful exchange of our respective viewpoints.

If the Foreign Secretary has anything he would like to say—

MR. BROWN. There is nothing I can add to that—that is exactly what has happened—except to say this: This is a particularly important moment for one of us in the Government to have an opportunity to exchange views with the President, because quite a number of these problems which have been with us for some time have obviously taken on additional complexities. I am thinking very much of the Middle East, among other things.

The British Government will be very glad to know the President's thinking and I have been able to acquaint him of our thinking. And having been to the United Nations this week and having been involved in what is going on there, again, that added to the importance of being able to talk to the President about it.

Beyond that I don't think I want to say anything except it is always very pleasant to see him.

THE PRESIDENT. You are returning home this evening.

MR. BROWN. I must be home this evening because the party conference starts at the weekend and we have the executive and all the operations preceding it going on from tomorrow in London. So I must get back there tonight. It is not a journey I look forward to, going overnight from here back home. The time scale runs against you.

Reporter: Thank you.

NOTE: The President spoke at 11:12 a.m. in his office at the White House. In his remarks he referred to George E. Christian, Special Assistant to the President.

As printed above, this item follows the text released by the White House Press Office.

405 Remarks Upon Signing Bill To Extend the Food Stamp Act of 1964. September 27, 1967

Good morning, ladies and gentlemen, Senator Aiken, Senator Byrd, Senator Ellender, Senator Boggs, Chairman Poage, Congresswoman Sullivan, Congressman Purcell, and the other Members of the House and Senate who I did not get recorded here:

I welcome one and all of you for the good work that you have done. I think we all share the common view that we want no American in this country to ever go hungry. We believe that we have the knowledge, the compassion, and the resources to banish hunger and to do away with malnutrition, if we will only apply those resources and those energies.

The bill that I have asked you to be here with me when I sign, puts some of that abundance into the reach of the people of America.

Under the food stamp program a low-income family can take what little money it has for food and purchase food stamps. At the neighborhood grocery store these are worth more than they cost. The difference is made up by the Federal Government.

Food stamps are not the only weapon in the assault on hunger. The Food Stamp Act was passed 3 years ago. In that time, the program has expanded from 43 pilot areas in 22 States to 838 areas in 41 States. Today it is helping to feed nearly 2 million needy Americans. This extension will enable us to do still more.

We have nearly 20 million schoolchildren—more than ever before—receiving low cost or free meals under the school lunch program. That program today is in its 21st year.

More than 100,000 children have a better chance to learn because they began their day with a decent breakfast because of the Child

Nutrition Act that we passed in 1966.

Three million needy Americans in family units are receiving better diets in the commodity donation program of the Department of Agriculture.

As I sign this act, I am asking the Secretary to help America's 300 poorest counties which do not now have food assistance to start a community distribution program to be available for the low-income families.

We are all mindful that the poor need more than food. The causes of poverty are complex. The answers to poverty are very difficult. The escape from poverty is not going to come soon, but we must all continue to try the best way that we can to give all that we can to banish poverty from our land.

Poverty's cruellest wound is hunger. The act that we will sign today, I think, will do some little something to relieve some of that hunger.

To those men and women in the House and Senate who have had the vision to help us prepare this bill by the long, drawn out hearings and the days in conference, and the debates on the floor, we owe them all a debt of gratitude which I want to acknowledge on behalf of the American people.

This will help our poor. This will help our farmers. And even though this is a bipartisan group, I hope it will help our Congress.

NOTE: The President spoke at 11:58 a.m. in the Rose Garden at the White House. In his opening words he referred to Senators George D. Aiken of Vermont, Robert C. Byrd of West Virginia, Allen J. Ellender of Louisiana, and J. Caleb Boggs of Delaware, and to Representatives W. R. Poage of Texas, Chairman of the House Agriculture Committee, Leonor K. (Mrs. John B.) Sullivan of Missouri, and Graham Purcell of Texas.

As enacted, the bill (S. 953) is Public Law 90-91 (81 Stat. 228).

406 Remarks at the Swearing In of Walter E. Washington and Thomas W. Fletcher as Commissioner of the District of Columbia and Assistant to the Commissioner. *September 28, 1967*

Mr. Justice Fortas, Mr. and Mrs. Walter Washington and family, Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Fletcher and family, distinguished Members of the Cabinet, Members of the Congress, Members of the Court, ladies and gentlemen:

More than ceremony summons us here to the East Room this morning.

We celebrate a new era for the Capital City as we meet here to swear in Walter Washington as Washington's first mayor, and Thomas Fletcher as his deputy.

The citizens of the District have waited almost a century for this day to come, and all that it symbolizes.

This is the day—and this is the year—that the District emerges into the world of the 20th century government.

With the recent reorganization plan, the Nation's Capital was liberated from the outworn practices of past years. That reorganization plan equips the city with new machinery to let its government serve the needs of its people.

But the best machinery can function effectively only in the hands of the best men.

I looked across America to try to find these men. And I think we found them—men with the strength and the character and the vision to deal with tough problems. And now, this morning, we commit those problems to their capable hands.

No one here, for a moment, minimizes these problems.

The District's new day comes at a time of real crisis for every American city. And Washington, D.C., the Capital City, represents the American city.

It is alive with promise. And more than

any other, it houses the heritage of our history.

But beyond the monuments, urban erosion eats at a city's heart and at a city's hope.

The needs are clear to all of us: safety on the streets and in our homes; driving crime from our midst; health and education for our children; a decent roof over every family; a good job for every person who is willing to take it. Then every resident can share the pride that stirs every visitor to our Capital.

The leaders who will help to solve those problems know the challenge. They are uniquely qualified to act because their careers have been spent in action, in meeting the needs of cities and the needs of their people.

Together, this team has the energy and the experience to deal responsibly with the great urban and human problems of our time. Together, they will focus those talents on our national Capital City.

Mr. Fletcher wrote an outstanding and distinguished record as city manager of San Diego, California. He brings to his task a deep knowledge of how modern city administration and fiscal planning can work to the benefit of the people.

Mr. Washington brings unsurpassed skills as a city executive. He is taking a very large reduction in salary and making sacrifices to come here to accept this draft from his President. He is an authentic leader and he has devoted a lifetime of effective and inspired work in the cause of good housing, one of our most critical urban needs—to say nothing about what he has done for beautification in the District of Columbia. He has lived and worked on the streets of his home city. And he had said that he is going to travel those

streets again, in pursuit of the progress that the people want and the people need and the people desire and expect.

Mr. Mayor, your walk will be long and arduous, but I believe it will be rewarding.

You will walk with the eyes of the Nation on you.

Everything you do will be known. You will live in a goldfish bowl as most of us public servants do. But, Mr. Mayor, and Mr. Deputy Mayor, we wish you well—and bid you Godspeed.

[At this point, Supreme Court Justice Abe Fortas administered the oath of office to Mr. Washington and Mr. Fletcher. The President then resumed speaking.]

Mr. Mayor and Mr. Fletcher, you won't be walking alone. I am sending to the Senate my recommendations for the District of Columbia City Council.

In filling this Council, it was our goal to find among the 800,000 residents of the District of Columbia nine exceptional men and women to work with you, to work on the team, to assist you in leading the government of the Nation's Capital, to represent the people at all times in this new venture in government that we are undertaking.

We have spent weeks in considering recommendations made to us by organizations, in searching and consulting with the best authorities that we could talk to. We have reviewed hundreds of records and files. We have sought and obtained not only your recommendations, Mr. Mayor and Mr. Fletcher, but those of civic, labor, religious, and other leading nonpolitical groups.

Today I am happy to announce the names of those that I recommend to serve on the Council. And if the Senate is willing, they will serve on the Council.

As Chairman, a distinguished Washington attorney, a political scientist, a teacher, a wise

counselor, a leader in bringing educational television and modern transportation to the Nation's Capital, Council Chairman Mr. Max Kampelman.

As Vice Chairman, a crusader for effective government, for broader opportunities, for better housing for all the people, the pastor of the New Bethel Baptist Church—the Reverend Walter Fauntroy.

Very deeply involved in the life of the city, honored as an outstanding citizen, an innovator in the field of programs for the young people of the District and director of one of Washington's most successful youth projects, the Roving Leaders—Mr. Stanley Anderson.

A leader in church activities, a fighter against discrimination, an eminent attorney, Mrs. Margaret A. Haywood.

A second-generation Washingtonian, a leader in the District's Head Start program, a worker for better housing, Mr. John Nevius.

President of the Washington Urban League, a respected member of the community, an outstanding lawyer, a past president of the National Bar Association, Mr. William Thompson.

A labor leader who knows the problems of the workingman, who fought for the minimum wage, who has spent a lifetime of service in the cause of labor, a man who has made many contributions to helping his fellow man and to improving his city, Mr. J. C. Turner.

One of 13 children, a lifelong resident of the District, and at present an executive at IBM, he finds the time to teach high school dropouts at night, Mr. Joseph Yeldell.

A longtime Washington resident, an editor, a civic leader, active in the District's family and child welfare program, Mrs. Polly Shackleton. Mrs. Shackleton this morning is

observing conditions in Montreal as a background for what she is going to be called on to do here and cannot be present.

These nine citizens, we believe, will be a genuine voice for the people of Washington. We think they represent this city. We believe they know and understand and will certainly learn all about its urgent problems.

I hope the Senate will act promptly so that the new city government can move rapidly from promise to performance.

With this team, Mayor Washington, you and your Deputy Mayor Fletcher can now show America what concerned and aroused municipal leaders can do. You can improve the lives of your fellow citizens. You can transform this city into a proud home for all the people.

Some of the most enlightened Members of

the Congress, who at great sacrifice to themselves, have fought for years for a better government for the District of Columbia, are here this morning. We are grateful to all of you for having come.

Now, Mr. Mayor and Mr. Deputy Mayor and City Councilmen, it is up to you to get with it. And you had better learn these Congressmen and Senators.

NOTE: The President spoke at 10:52 a.m. in the East Room at the White House. In his opening words he referred to Associate Justice Abe Fortas of the United States Supreme Court, who administered the oath of office.

On October 11 the White House announced that Max Kampelman, named by the President as Chairman of the District of Columbia Council, had requested that his nomination be withdrawn because of problems related to his law practice. John W. Hechinger, the announcement said, would be nominated in his place.

See also Items 341 and 377.

407 Remarks Upon Presenting the Medal of Honor to Sgt. David C. Dolby, USA. *September 28, 1967*

Secretary Resor, General Haines, Members of the Congress, distinguished guests, the Dolby family, Sergeant Dolby:

We have come here this morning to honor one of America's bravest men. In presenting Sergeant David Dolby with the Nation's highest award, we bear witness to a courage and a dedication that rests well above and far beyond the call of duty.

To this soldier, valor is a familiar companion. He is a member of the 1st Cavalry, the remarkable division to which I had the honor of presenting a Presidential Unit Citation earlier this month.

He already holds several medals, including a Purple Heart and a Silver Star.

And yet he just recently turned 21 years of age.

We are proud that such men still march under the American colors.

But for all of our pride in Sergeant Dolby, this is a day for sorrow as well—sorrow that in a world that boasts of its progress and its civilization, heroism and sacrifice on the battlefields still seem to be necessary.

We who have labored all of our lives to preserve and enrich human life in our own country and abroad grieve that young Americans must go out to the frontier of freedom and fight, taking the lives of others while risking their own.

I am often asked, "Why do you say so little in reply to the critics of the war?" The answer is simple. No one hates war and killing more than I do. No sane American can greet the news from Vietnam with enthusiasm.

Indeed, an American who rejoiced in war and conflict should be instantly removed from any position of responsibility.

But in the same sense, we cannot cheer as we learn of the impact of our might on the enemy.

In the spirit of Abraham Lincoln, we must confront our obligations with dedication and with resolution. We must be moved by anguish and compassion at the consequences.

We recognize and have always recognized that there can be no simple military solution to the problems of Southeast Asia. But we have also had to face the hard reality that only military power can bar aggression and can make a political solution possible.

We wish for nothing more than a swift and honorable resolution of our differences in Vietnam.

We have offered to talk any time, anywhere. But until there is a response that might lead to a just political settlement, we must and we will fight to prevent others from imposing their military solution on the people of South Vietnam and Southeast Asia.

Until the day comes when we lay down our arms and deal in good faith with North Vietnam across a conference table, brave young men like David Dolby will have to fight in order to assure others their freedom.

They are the finest of America's manhood. As Winston Churchill wrote, "Courage is rightly esteemed the first of human qualities because it is the quality which guarantees all others."

We cherish that quality in you, Sergeant Dolby, and we shall redeem that guarantee.

We are so proud that your parents and your family can be here with you today. We know that they, too, are so proud of you.

[Secretary of the Army Stanley R. Resor read the citation, the text of which follows.]

The President of the United States of America, authorized by Act of Congress, March 3, 1863, has awarded in the name of The Congress the Medal of Honor, to

SERGEANT (THEN SP 4) DAVID C. DOLBY,
UNITED STATES ARMY

for conspicuous gallantry and intrepidity in action at the risk of his life above and beyond the call of duty:

On 21 May 1966, Specialist Dolby was serving as a machine gunner of Company B, 1st Battalion (Airborne), 8th Cavalry in the Republic of Vietnam, when his platoon, while advancing tactically, suddenly came under intense fire from the enemy located on a ridge immediately to the front. Six members of the platoon were killed instantly and a number were wounded, including the platoon leader. Specialist Dolby's every move brought fire from the enemy. However, aware that the platoon leader was critically wounded, and that the platoon was in a precarious situation, Specialist Dolby moved the wounded men to safety and deployed the remainder of the platoon to engage the enemy. Subsequently, his dying platoon leader ordered Specialist Dolby to withdraw the forward elements to rejoin the platoon. Despite the continuing intense enemy fire and with utter disregard for his own safety, Specialist Dolby positioned able-bodied men to cover the withdrawal of the forward elements, assisted the wounded to the new position, and he, alone, attacked enemy positions until his ammunition was expended. Replenishing his ammunition, he returned to the area of most intense action, single-handedly killed three enemy machine gunners and neutralized the enemy fire, thus enabling friendly elements on the flank to advance on the enemy redoubt. He defied the enemy fire to personally carry a seriously wounded soldier to safety, where he could be treated and, returning to the forward area, he crawled through withering fire to within fifty meters of the enemy bunkers and threw smoke grenades to mark them

for air strikes. Although repeatedly under fire at close range from enemy snipers and automatic weapons, Specialist Dolby directed artillery fire on the enemy and succeeded in silencing several enemy weapons. He remained in his exposed location until his comrades had displaced to more secure positions. His actions of unsurpassed valor during four hours of intense combat were a source of inspiration to his entire company, contributed significantly to the success of the overall assault on the enemy position, and were directly

responsible for saving the lives of a number of his fellow soldiers. Specialist Dolby's heroism was in the highest tradition of the United States Army.

LYNDON B. JOHNSON

NOTE: The President spoke at 11:38 a.m. in the East Room at the White House. In his opening words he referred to Secretary of the Army Stanley R. Resor, Gen. Ralph E. Haines, Jr., Vice Chief of Staff of the Army, and to Sergeant Dolby, his parents Mr. and Mrs. Charles L. Dolby, and his brother Daniel, of Oaks, Pa.

408 The President's News Conference at Harlingen, Texas, Following an Inspection of Hurricane Damage. *September 28, 1967*

STATEMENT ON HURRICANE BEULAH AND RELATED FLOOD DAMAGE

THE PRESIDENT. [I.] First of all, we are very thankful that we have had as small a loss of life as we have had attendant to this disaster.

Second, we are very proud that our neighboring country of Mexico, through its President, could work so cooperatively with the United States in meeting the common problem.

The Governors of the States across the river and the Governor of this State have been in close communication and have worked in perfect harmony throughout.

There wasn't a great deal that I could personally do by coming here. I had received reports from Senator Yarborough, Senator Tower, and Congressman Jones of the Public Works Committee. The Governor has been in touch with me every day since this disaster started last week. I was generally familiar with the distress that had been suffered.

We had taken steps to provide all the assistance that we could to the local, county,

and State officials who were dealing with the situation.

I asked Secretary McNamara last Friday to see that every facility of the Defense Department was available to the extent needed. And I am very proud of the performance that the Defense officials have carried out.

Mr. Hastings, who is Governor Bryant's¹ regional manager, with headquarters in Denton, has been by the side of the Governor and the local officials throughout this period. It has been a common judgment in connection with every recommendation that has been made.

The thing I want to stress particularly by coming here this afternoon and visiting some of the hospital centers and the food centers, and flying over the area, was to let these people know that their Government cares for them, and let our neighbors who are the unfortunate victims of distress across the river know that we care for them, and that we are a compassionate and understanding Government. And in the hour of

¹ George E. Hastings, Director, Region 5, Office of Emergency Planning, and Farris Bryant, Director, Office of Emergency Planning.

need, we are there. As nearly as I can see, every need that they have had has been met.

Governor Connally has presented, through Mr. Hastings and Mr. Bryant, on behalf of the State of Texas, with the approval of our regional headquarters, a very thorough report and request that we declare this a disaster area, applying it to several counties. There will be additional counties added from time to time.

The purpose of that declaration is primarily to make eligible certain funds for the rebuilding of public facilities—roads, and any buildings that may have been destroyed, things of that nature.

The law requires that the Governor make an appraisal of the damage that has been suffered. It is a very difficult thing to do, but the State officials, the regional officials, and the local officials have been at work. And they tell me that they estimate that it will be somewhere in excess of \$20 million.

The Governor is making that application, and I am acting on it as of now.

It will be declared a disaster area. \$2.5 million will be set aside immediately.

As the local authorities, the engineers, the State, regional, and Federal officials have a meeting of minds after the water recedes and they can see just how much damage has been done to the streets, highways, underpasses, and matters of that nature, we will add to it.

We are going to do whatever is needed to be done.

We are going to meet whatever requirements must be met.

We are, as I said, an understanding, compassionate Government—and in the hour of need we are going to be there.

I have, unfortunately, had to observe a good many disasters of this and other natures—hurricanes, tornadoes, floods, fires, and so forth—since I have been President.

I have never seen one where the people

were more cooperative and more understanding of the problem confronting them.

I have never seen one where the local, county, State, and Federal officials worked more cooperatively together.

I congratulate one and all from the small town mayor to the Governor of the State, and to the generals of the Army and the privates who supported them in this effort.

I am very proud of my country.

I am very proud of the officials of the various subdivisions of the Government.

We are sorry this had to happen, but we are thankful that we have lost as few lives as we have.

Now is the time to rebuild. And that will be underway. I will affix my signature to the declaration of the disaster as soon as I get in the plane. \$2.5 million will be set aside. That money will be available if, as, and when projects are presented that justify approval. Allocations will be taken from that fund.

As we get better surveys and get additional damage known, those applications will be extended, not only to the 24 counties now involved, but there may be additional ones. Well, then the fund will be increased proportionately.

Senator Yarborough and Senator Tower have assured me, as have the Congressmen involved—Congressman de la Garza, Congressman Kazen, and Congressman Young—that the Congress will make available in their judgment whatever funds are necessary to see that the Federal Government does its part.

So I leave here sad at what has occurred, but proud that our Government has extended its hand in the hour of need, and that the officials have worked well together. And, I think we will come out of it strong and more appreciative of each other.

I will be glad to take your questions, if you have any.

QUESTIONS

[2.] Q. Mr. President, what was the most impressive thing you saw today on your tour of the valley?

THE PRESIDENT. Well, I saw many impressive things. Everything I saw was impressive. I saw the doctors and the nurses caring for the sick, the unfortunate, and the injured. And, I was so thankful that we had skilled people who were trained.

I saw the Army under its excellent leadership apparently anticipating every problem. And, I saw the engineers in charge of the International Boundary Commission.

I saw the people being fed. Every mother that I talked to said they were being handled properly and they were grateful. The food was adequate and good.

I saw these hundreds of poor people who had lost their homes, or who had to move from their homes in Mexico and come to their neighbor across the river. And that touched me.

The doctors, the food people, the irrigation and engineering folks who were in charge—all have made their individual contributions. I think we have much to be proud of.

[3.] Q. Mr. President, am I correct in my understanding that this \$20 million estimate is for public facilities only? That does not, of course, include private property, crops or anything like that but just the public facilities?

THE PRESIDENT. That is correct.

[4.] Q. Mr. President, one of the points that has been made to the Governor, and I am sure he has passed it along to you, is that a lot of people will be unemployed because of the loss of citrus and other crops for the next 3 or 4 months. Is there any kind of public works program in mind for the valley?

THE PRESIDENT. There are public works

programs that are available. We will be glad to survey the unemployment needs and try to provide allotments that will be helpful in that connection through the poverty program, through the public works program of the Army Engineers, and other agencies, the Neighborhood Youth Corps and things of that nature.

[5.] Q. Could this result in some further diversion dams or flood control devices along the Rio Grande?

THE PRESIDENT. Yes, Mr. Friedkin,² of the International Boundary Commission, and Congressman Jones, Congressman de la Garza and the Senators pointed out to me the very important necessity of planning additional dams that will avoid, to a large degree, some of the waste that has occurred here.

There is no question, I think, but what those plans will be processed and ultimately the Congress will act upon them. Another dam is very much needed.

If there is one thing that impressed me today, it is that I am glad we have built with our neighbor Mexico the Falcon and Amistad Dams—the Amistad now underway. But it is very clear to me that we have not built enough dams in this area.

[6.] Q. The question has been raised that possibly the Federal Government is responsible for the flooding, particularly in the Harlingen area and the Mercedes area, legally responsible because of the failure of the structure near Anzalduas Dam. Do you care to speak about that?

THE PRESIDENT. No. I wouldn't think that would have much merit. There is always something that the Federal Government is blamed for. And there are always some blamers and complainers.

² Joseph F. Friedkin, Commissioner, U.S. Section, International Boundary and Water Commission, El Paso, Texas.

I started out in my public career by creating a man-made flood up on the Colorado.

But, the same people who are doing that now are the ones who are saying we shouldn't have any additional taxes, and we ought to cut appropriations by several billions, and so forth.

I think the Federal Government has been rather enlightened in its actions in this area. Perhaps they have spent more money than the people themselves wanted spent at times. We have completed the Falcon Dam. We are now on the Amistad Dam. And we are now talking about another dam.

If we spent a little less time blaming people and a little more time building instead of tearing down, it would be better for our Government and for our people.

[7.] Q. Mr. President, will you talk with President Diaz Ordaz about some control of the river for avoiding this kind of problem?

THE PRESIDENT. Yes. We will, of course, welcome the chance to talk to our friend President Diaz Ordaz, who will be in Washington next month. We have already exchanged several messages with him.

We, at his request the other day, sent helicopters into the area and provided certain other assistance. We notified the Ambassador this morning to tell the President we are sending six additional helicopters tonight to help evacuate people.

We will work cooperatively on the job at hand, but we will also talk about any new construction plans that are indicated.

I went to Mexico in 1958 when we had our first conversations with Adolfo López Mateos about the Amistad Dam. I expect we will have a repeat performance when President Diaz Ordaz visits Washington. We will be planning some other dams.

I can't speak for him. And I can't speak for myself now. But, the congressional group

and the Governor have urged us to consider putting underway plans for other facilities that will take care of situations like this in the future.

[8.] Q. Mr. President, the Brownsville weather bureau has seemingly had some sort of difficulty in predicting the stages for the Rio Grande because Mexico broke a levee and was diverting water through there and they had no way of knowing exactly how much. So they had difficulty telling us what the stages would be. Do you think there could be more cooperation between the IBWC [International Boundary and Water Commission, United States and Mexico] and the Mexican Government?

THE PRESIDENT. I always want to get all the cooperation that can be gotten. And I think we are very fortunate that the neighboring countries cooperate to the extent they can. If that can be improved, I will do my part so far as the United States is concerned. I am sure that the United States can at least improve everything it does.

[9.] Q. Mr. President, do you plan any meetings with any Mexican officials before President Diaz Ordaz comes to Washington next month?

THE PRESIDENT. No.

I want to particularly thank the committee from the House and the Senate that has come here; and the alertness of Congressman de la Garza, who has worked day and night on this matter.

I want to thank Senator Yarborough and Senator Tower. This is the second trip they have made. They have been here on the ground floor.

I am particularly grateful and proud of Governor Connally who has talked to me every day since this started.

I am happy that all these servants of the people still care about the people.

Reporter: Thank you, Mr. President.

NOTE: President Johnson's one hundred and tenth news conference was held at the Harlingen Industrial Airport, Harlingen, Texas, at 7:10 p.m. on Thursday, September 28, 1967, following an inspection flight over areas damaged by floods subsequent to Hurricane Beulah.

At 11 a.m. on the same day, prior to the President's news conference, the White House issued a fact sheet on Federal relief action following the hurricane and floods. The text is printed in the Weekly Compilation of Presidential Documents (vol. 3, p. 1353).

409 Address on Vietnam Before the National Legislative Conference, San Antonio, Texas. *September 29, 1967*

Speaker Barnes, Governor Hughes, Governor Smith, Congressman Kazen, Representative Graham, most distinguished legislators, ladies and gentlemen:

I deeply appreciate this opportunity to appear before an organization whose members contribute every day such important work to the public affairs of our State and of our country.

This evening I came here to speak to you about Vietnam.

I do not have to tell you that our people are profoundly concerned about that struggle.

There are passionate convictions about the wisest course for our Nation to follow. There are many sincere and patriotic Americans who harbor doubts about sustaining the commitment that three Presidents and a half a million of our young men have made.

Doubt and debate are enlarged because the problems of Vietnam are quite complex. They are a mixture of political turmoil—of poverty—of religious and factional strife—of ancient servitude and modern longing for freedom. Vietnam is all of these things.

Vietnam is also the scene of a powerful aggression that is spurred by an appetite for conquest.

It is the arena where Communist expansionism is most aggressively at work in the world today—where it is crossing international frontiers in violation of international agreements; where it is killing and kidnapp-

ing; where it is ruthlessly attempting to bend free people to its will.

Into this mixture of subversion and war, of terror and hope, America has entered—with its material power and with its moral commitment.

Why?

Why should three Presidents and the elected representatives of our people have chosen to defend this Asian nation more than 10,000 miles from American shores?

We cherish freedom—yes. We cherish self-determination for all people—yes. We abhor the political murder of any state by another, and the bodily murder of any people by gangsters of whatever ideology. And for 27 years—since the days of lend-lease—we have sought to strengthen free people against domination by aggressive foreign powers.

But the key to all that we have done is really our own security. At times of crisis—before asking Americans to fight and die to resist aggression in a foreign land—every American President has finally had to answer this question:

Is the aggression a threat—not only to the immediate victim—but to the United States of America and to the peace and security of the entire world of which we in America are a very vital part?

That is the question which Dwight Eisenhower and John Kennedy and Lyndon Johnson had to answer in facing the issue in Vietnam.

That is the question that the Senate of the United States answered by a vote of 82 to 1 when it ratified and approved the SEATO treaty in 1955, and to which the Members of the United States Congress responded in a resolution that it passed in 1964 by a vote of 504 to 2, "... the United States is, therefore, prepared, as the President determines, to take all necessary steps, including the use of armed force, to assist any member or protocol state of the Southeast Asia Collective Defense Treaty requesting assistance in defense of its freedom."

Those who tell us now that we should abandon our commitment—that securing South Vietnam from armed domination is not worth the price we are paying—must also answer this question. And the test they must meet is this: What would be the consequences of letting armed aggression against South Vietnam succeed? What would follow in the time ahead? What kind of world are they prepared to live in 5 months or 5 years from tonight?

For those who have borne the responsibility for decision during these past 10 years, the stakes to us have seemed clear—and have seemed high.

President Dwight Eisenhower said in 1959:

"Strategically, South Vietnam's capture by the Communists would bring their power several hundred miles into a hitherto free region. The remaining countries in Southeast Asia would be menaced by a great flanking movement. The freedom of 12 million people would be lost immediately, and that of 150 million in adjacent lands would be seriously endangered. The loss of South Vietnam would set in motion a crumbling process that could, as it progressed, have grave consequences for us and for freedom. . . ."

And President John F. Kennedy said in 1962:

"... withdrawal in the case of Vietnam and the case of Thailand might mean a collapse of the entire area."

A year later, he reaffirmed that:

"We are not going to withdraw from that effort. In my opinion, for us to withdraw from that effort would mean a collapse not only of South Vietnam, but Southeast Asia. So we are going to stay there," said President Kennedy.

This is not simply an American viewpoint, I would have you legislative leaders know. I am going to call the roll now of those who live in that part of the world—in the great arc of Asian and Pacific nations—and who bear the responsibility for leading their people, and the responsibility for the fate of their people.

The President of the Philippines had this to say:

"Vietnam is the focus of attention now. . . . It may happen to Thailand or the Philippines, or anywhere, wherever there is misery, disease, ignorance. . . . For you to renounce your position of leadership in Asia is to allow the Red Chinese to gobble up all of Asia."

The Foreign Minister of Thailand said:

"(The American) decision will go down in history as the move that prevented the world from having to face another major conflagration."

The Prime Minister of Australia said:

"We are there because while Communist aggression persists the whole of Southeast Asia is threatened."

President Park of Korea said:

"For the first time in our history, we decided to dispatch our combat troops overseas . . . because in our belief any aggression against the Republic of Vietnam represented a direct and grave menace against the security and peace of free Asia, and therefore directly jeopardized the very security and

freedom of our own people."

The Prime Minister of Malaysia warned his people that if the United States pulled out of South Vietnam, it would go to the Communists, and after that, it would be only a matter of time until they moved against neighboring states.

The Prime Minister of New Zealand said:

"We can thank God that America at least regards aggression in Asia with the same concern as it regards aggression in Europe—and is prepared to back up its concern with action."

The Prime Minister of Singapore said:

"I feel the fate of Asia—South and South-east Asia—will be decided in the next few years by what happens in Vietnam."

I cannot tell you tonight as your President—with certainty—that a Communist conquest of South Vietnam would be followed by a Communist conquest of South-east Asia. But I do know there are North Vietnamese troops in Laos. I do know that there are North Vietnamese trained guerrillas tonight in northeast Thailand. I do know that there are Communist-supported guerrilla forces operating in Burma. And a Communist coup was barely averted in Indonesia, the fifth largest nation in the world.

So your American President cannot tell you—with certainty—that a Southeast Asia dominated by Communist power would bring a third world war much closer to terrible reality. One could hope that this would not be so.

But all that we have learned in this tragic century strongly suggests to me that it would be so. As President of the United States, I am not prepared to gamble on the chance that it is not so. I am not prepared to risk the security—indeed, the survival—of this American Nation on mere hope and wishful thinking. I am convinced that by seeing this struggle through now, we are greatly reducing

the chances of a much larger war—perhaps a nuclear war. I would rather stand in Vietnam, in our time, and by meeting this danger now, and facing up to it, thereby reduce the danger for our children and for our grandchildren.

I want to turn now to the struggle in Vietnam itself.

There are questions about this difficult war that must trouble every really thoughtful person. I am going to put some of these questions. And I am going to give you the very best answers that I can give you.

First, are the Vietnamese—with our help, and that of their other allies—really making any progress? Is there a forward movement? The reports I see make it clear that there is. Certainly there is a positive movement toward constitutional government. Thus far the Vietnamese have met the political schedule that they laid down in January 1966.

The people wanted an elected, responsive government. They wanted it strongly enough to brave a vicious campaign of Communist terror and assassination to vote for it. It has been said that they killed more civilians in 4 weeks trying to keep them from voting before the election than our American bombers have killed in the big cities of North Vietnam in bombing military targets.

On November 1, subject to the action, of course, of the Constituent Assembly, an elected government will be inaugurated and an elected Senate and Legislature will be installed. Their responsibility is clear: To answer the desires of the South Vietnamese people for self-determination and for peace, for an attack on corruption, for economic development, and for social justice.

There is progress in the war itself, steady progress considering the war that we are fighting; rather dramatic progress considering the situation that actually prevailed when we sent our troops there in 1965; when we

intervened to prevent the dismemberment of the country by the Vietcong and the North Vietnamese.

The campaigns of the last year drove the enemy from many of their major interior bases. The military victory almost within Hanoi's grasp in 1965 has now been denied them. The grip of the Vietcong on the people is being broken.

Since our commitment of major forces in July 1965 the proportion of the population living under Communist control has been reduced to well under 20 percent. Tonight the secure proportion of the population has grown from about 45 percent to 65 percent—and in the contested areas, the tide continues to run with us.

But the struggle remains hard. The South Vietnamese have suffered severely, as have we—particularly in the First Corps area in the north, where the enemy has mounted his heaviest attacks, and where his lines of communication to North Vietnam are shortest. Our casualties in the war have reached about 13,500 killed in action, and about 85,000 wounded. Of those 85,000 wounded, we thank God that 79,000 of the 85,000 have been returned, or will return to duty shortly. Thanks to our great American medical science and the helicopter.

I know there are other questions on your minds, and on the minds of many sincere, troubled Americans: "Why not negotiate now?" so many ask me. The answer is that we and our South Vietnamese allies are wholly prepared to negotiate tonight.

I am ready to talk with Ho Chi Minh, and other chiefs of state concerned, tomorrow.

I am ready to have Secretary Rusk meet with their foreign minister tomorrow.

I am ready to send a trusted representative of America to any spot on this earth to talk in public or private with a spokesman of Hanoi.

We have twice sought to have the issue of Vietnam dealt with by the United Nations—and twice Hanoi has refused.

Our desire to negotiate peace—through the United Nations or out—has been made very, very clear to Hanoi—directly and many times through third parties.

As we have told Hanoi time and time and time again, the heart of the matter is really this: The United States is willing to stop all aerial and naval bombardment of North Vietnam when this will lead promptly to productive discussions. We, of course, assume that while discussions proceed, North Vietnam would not take advantage of the bombing cessation or limitation.

But Hanoi has not accepted any of these proposals.

So it is by Hanoi's choice—and not ours, and not the rest of the world's—that the war continues.

Why, in the face of military and political progress in the South, and the burden of our bombing in the North, do they insist and persist with the war?

From many sources the answer is the same. They still hope that the people of the United States will not see this struggle through to the very end. As one Western diplomat reported to me only this week—he had just been in Hanoi—"They believe their staying power is greater than ours and that they can't lose." A visitor from a Communist capital had this to say: "They expect the war to be long, and that the Americans in the end will be defeated by a breakdown in morale, fatigue, and psychological factors." The Premier of North Vietnam said as far back as 1962: "Americans do not like long, inconclusive war. . . . Thus we are sure to win in the end."

Are the North Vietnamese right about us?

I think not. No. I think they are wrong. I think it is the common failing of totalitarian

regimes that they cannot really understand the nature of our democracy:

- They mistake dissent for disloyalty.
- They mistake restlessness for a rejection of policy.
- They mistake a few committees for a country.
- They misjudge individual speeches for public policy.

They are no better suited to judge the strength and perseverance of America than the Nazi and the Stalinist propagandists were able to judge it. It is a tragedy that they must discover these qualities in the American people, and discover them through a bloody war.

And, soon or late, they will discover them.

In the meantime, it shall be our policy to continue to seek negotiations—confident that reason will some day prevail; that Hanoi will realize that it just can never win; that it will turn away from fighting and start building for its own people.

Since World War II, this Nation has met and has mastered many challenges—challenges in Greece and Turkey, in Berlin, in Korea, in Cuba.

We met them because brave men were willing to risk their lives for their nation's security. And braver men have never lived than those who carry our colors in Vietnam at this very hour.

The price of these efforts, of course, has been heavy. But the price of not having made them at all, not having seen them through, in my judgment would have been vastly greater.

Our goal has been the same—in Europe, in Asia, in our own hemisphere. It has been—and it is now—peace.

And peace cannot be secured by wishes; peace cannot be preserved by noble words

and pure intentions. "Enduring peace," Franklin D. Roosevelt said, "cannot be bought at the cost of other people's freedom."

The late President Kennedy put it precisely in November 1961, when he said: "We are neither warmongers nor appeasers, neither hard nor soft. We are Americans determined to defend the frontiers of freedom by an honorable peace if peace is possible but by arms if arms are used against us."

The true peace-keepers in the world tonight are not those who urge us to retire from the field in Vietnam—who tell us to try to find the quickest, cheapest exit from that tormented land, no matter what the consequences to us may be.

The true peace-keepers are those men who stand out there on the DMZ at this very hour, taking the worst that the enemy can give. The true peace-keepers are the soldiers who are breaking the terrorist's grip around the villages of Vietnam—the civilians who are bringing medical care and food and education to people who have already suffered a generation of war.

And so I report to you that we are going to continue to press forward. Two things we must do. Two things we shall do.

First, we must not mislead the enemy. Let him not think that debate and dissent will produce wavering and withdrawal. For I can assure you they won't. Let him not think that protests will produce surrender. Because they won't. Let him not think that he will wait us out. For he won't.

Second, we will provide all that our brave men require to do the job that must be done. And that job is going to be done.

These gallant men have our prayers—have our thanks—have our heart-felt praise—and our deepest gratitude.

Let the world know that the keepers of

peace will endure through every trial—and that with the full backing of their countrymen, they are going to prevail.

NOTE: The President spoke at 8:34 p.m. at the Villita Assembly Hall in San Antonio, Texas, before a group of 2,000 delegates to the National Legislative Conference, conducted by the Council of State Governments. In his opening words he referred to

Ben Barnes, Speaker of the Texas House of Representatives, Governor Harold E. Hughes of Iowa, Lieutenant Governor Preston Smith of Texas, Representative Abraham Kazen, Jr., of Texas, and Thomas Graham, member of the Missouri House of Representatives. The address was broadcast nationally.

Following the President's address, Mrs. Johnson spoke briefly. The text of her remarks was released by the White House Press Office.

410 Statement by the President Upon Signing the Department of Defense Appropriation Act, 1968. *September 30, 1967*

I HAVE signed the Department of Defense Appropriation Act of 1968.

This bill appropriates nearly \$70 billion to keep our Nation strong and free.

This is a complex measure—and the Congress has given very thorough consideration to our requests.

I must note, however, that this bill contains several provisions which are of concern to me.

First, this bill is some \$1.6 billion below my January budget. This reduction was based on the assumption that major savings within the Defense Establishment are possible.

The Department of Defense has been the pace setter in cost reduction and efficiency of operation throughout the Federal Government.

Secretary McNamara will continue to pursue these efforts, and I have asked him to take every action to hold defense expenditures as near as possible to the January estimates.

But I must emphasize that the budget I presented last January was austere.

I must emphasize, too, that the costs of conflict can never be precisely estimated nor fully foreseen. This fact, coupled with the congressional cut of \$1.6 billion, might well create an unavoidable requirement for addi-

tional defense funds.

Second, this bill contains an amendment to prevent British firms from bidding—along with U.S. firms—on the construction of seven wooden-hulled minesweepers for the U.S. Navy. It has the effect of endangering a British-U.S. agreement that is of economic benefit to both nations.

Under that agreement we provided the opportunity to British firms to compete for the manufacture of \$325 million worth of U.S. military items. The United Kingdom agreed to buy some of its own military hardware from us. In fact, Great Britain has already spent \$1.7 billion in the United States under this agreement—and that figure is expected to reach \$2.5 billion.

This has meant jobs for American workers and contracts for American business.

The British entered into this agreement in good faith—and America must keep its word. To that end I have asked Secretary McNamara to seek alternative ways to guarantee our commitment to the British.

Finally, the bill places a floor under the manpower levels of our reserve forces.

I have made my views clear on the subject of these inflexible strength requirements. I felt they were unwise in past years—and I feel that they are just as unwise today.

These objections aside, I sign this measure

with a great deal of pride in our Armed Forces.

I sign it with an assurance to our brave men and women in uniform that America stands behind them and that they will never lack the arms and equipment they need to do their job.

NOTE: As enacted, the Department of Defense Appropriation Act, 1968 (H.R. 10738) is Public Law 90-96 (81 Stat. 231). The act was approved on September 29, 1967.

The statement was released at San Antonio, Texas.

411 The President's News Conference at the LBJ Ranch. *September 30, 1967*

THE PRESIDENT. I have some announcements that may be of interest to you.

APPOINTMENTS IN DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

SPECIAL ASSISTANT TO THE ATTORNEY GENERAL

[1.] Mr. Stephen Pollak, who has been my Special Assistant for District of Columbia matters, will be returning to the Department of Justice shortly, as soon as he can effect a transition with Mayor Washington, to be Special Assistant to the Attorney General, with a wide variety of duties involving urban affairs, civil rights matters, and a good many special functions.

Mr. Pollak has done an unusually creative and very excellent job in his present post. He will work very closely with Mayor Washington and the Deputy Mayor, Mr. Fletcher, in the next few days before going over to the Department of Justice.

I will not have a successor to Mr. Pollak in the assignment formerly held by Mr. Horsky¹ and then Mr. Pollak, but will deal directly with Mayor Washington in connection with District matters.

Mr. Christian² will have a brief bio-

graphical sketch of Mr. Pollak and answer any further inquiries you may have on the subject.

ASSISTANT ATTORNEY GENERAL, CIVIL DIVISION

[2.] I have asked Mr. Edwin L. Weisl, Jr., presently Assistant Attorney General in Charge of the Lands Division, to come here today. I have tendered and he has accepted assignment as Assistant Attorney General in Charge of the Civil Division, which is one of the most responsible legal jobs in the Department of Justice.

Mr. Weisl is a graduate of Yale and Columbia. His distinguished father is a senior member of the firm of Simpson, Thacher and Bartlett, in New York, and a Democratic committeeman in New York. Mr. Weisl has been in the Department of Justice since 1965.

He will succeed to the job formerly held by Mr. Sanders,³ who is here with us today and now a member of our staff, and before that by Mr. John Douglas.

SOLICITOR GENERAL

[3.] We are very anxious to make the Department of Justice a department of ex-

¹ Mr. Charles A. Horsky preceded Mr. Pollak as the President's Advisor for National Capital Affairs.

² George E. Christian, Special Assistant to the President.

³ Harold Barefoot Sanders, Jr., Legislative Counsel to the President.

cellence, where we have the best trained and best equipped, and most meritorious appointments. For that reason we have spent some time searching the country to try to find a replacement for the Solicitor General who has recently been appointed to the Supreme Court. He has been confirmed to that position and will take over his duties next week.

I am delighted to tell you that Dean Griswold, Dean of the Harvard Law School since 1946, who formerly served in the Solicitor's department for some 5 years, has, at the request of the President, agreed to accept appointment as Solicitor General. I shall send his name to the Senate shortly.

I believe that covers all the announcements.

If you have any questions relating to them that I need to answer, I will be glad to do it. If not, I will turn them over to Mr. Christian. If you have any questions of the Attorney General or any of the appointees, they will be glad to try to answer those.

QUESTIONS

[4.] Q. Mr. President, would you care to go into questioning on other subjects?

THE PRESIDENT. I hadn't scheduled a press conference, but I don't want to refuse it if you have some compelling need that Mr. Christian can't satisfy, I will be glad to take it.

Q. I haven't tried this one on Mr. Christian.

THE PRESIDENT. I would just try it and if you don't get results, well then let me know.

COMMUNICATION BETWEEN THE POPE AND U THANT

[5.] Q. I wondered if you have any knowledge of the communication between the Pope and Mr. U Thant yesterday in

which His Holiness referred to certain current peace moves and those coming up in the future. Do you know whether he was referring in a generalized way or to anything specific?

THE PRESIDENT. I don't think I have anything to say about that. I think His Holiness would be the proper authority to determine what he had in mind. And I wouldn't want to presume to speak for him.

THE PRESIDENT'S SAN ANTONIO SPEECH

[6.] Q. Mr. President, in the past you have mentioned a reciprocal move by North Vietnam as a condition for our either halting or decreasing the bombing. Last night in your San Antonio speech, you did not mention this reciprocity. Was this not mentioning it any change in our policy or any softening of our position?

THE PRESIDENT. I will let that speech stand for itself. I don't agree, necessarily, with the first part of your statement, that in the past when I only referred to it I referred to it in a certain way. That is your statement and not mine.

The statement last night has been made before. It was made, as I said, time and time again. It was made in recent press conferences.

I think you were present when I made substantially the same statement. It represents official Government policy, namely, that we are trying every way we can to find any way to sit down at any time, any place, with these people and talk about the possibilities of peace.

We, a number of times, have specified the different ways we thought that could be done.

Last night I may have indicated that we would be very specific about stopping the bombing. And I developed that some by

speaking about the timing, the promptness of the discussions, the productivity of the discussions, and the situation that we would expect to exist.

I don't think I would want to elaborate on it any more than I did last night, or any more than I did in previous references by the President and by various other public officials.

I did not intend last night—I did not feel that I had any requirement to submit only new material. I tried to discuss the general Government policy and to explain to all the people some of the things that I felt had not gotten through to them. And that was one of them.

But I did not mean that I felt the criteria of the speech had to be something new in it.

Q. Thank you, sir.

RESPONSE FROM SOUTHEAST ASIA TO SPEECH

[7.] Q. Mr. President, have you had any message from anyone in the Far East since your speech last night?

THE PRESIDENT. I don't understand the full import of your question.

Q. Well, I wondered had there been any diplomatic response from Southeast Asia as a result of what you said last night?

THE PRESIDENT. Are you asking if I have heard from the North Vietnamese?

Q. Among other people, yes, sir.

THE PRESIDENT. Well, I haven't read everything that has come in. To my knowledge, we haven't heard from them.

But if some rancher from Australia had wired me congratulations, I wouldn't want to be caught in a credibility gap by saying I hadn't heard from that part of the world.

If you are asking about North Vietnam, the answer is, to my knowledge, no.

Q. Mr. President, since you have seen

some of the responses, can you tell us how it is running and whether you are gratified by it?

THE PRESIDENT. No, I haven't gone over the responses.

DEAN GRISWOLD

[8.] Q. Mr. President, Dean Griswold has been a very distinguished member of the academic community in law, but from time to time he has been something of a critic of the Supreme Court, particularly in some areas of its activism. I recall precisely his criticism of one of the prayer decisions, I think it was an implied criticism. Does his appointment imply any criticism on the part of the administration about its activism in the fields of social and economic areas in which it has not traditionally operated?

THE PRESIDENT. I think you know the answer to that question. Anyone as well informed on the Dean's views should know it.

The answer, of course, is of course not. He was selected because of his ability as a lawyer and his stature as a citizen, and not because of any individual views or political views he might have.

As a matter of fact, I think he is a Republican, a registered Republican.

PLANS TO RUN FOR REELECTION

[9.] Q. Mr. President, speaking of Republicans, there are some Democrats around the country who are organizing rival slates for the convention to oppose your renomination for the Presidency. Do they know something that we don't, namely, that you are running?

THE PRESIDENT. You have better contacts with those various groups through your medium than I do. I am not fully aware of

who they are or what they are.

Q. When do you anticipate that you might make known your decision on whether you will run?

THE PRESIDENT. When I have made a decision, I will make it known. I will cross that bridge when I get to it.

SPECIFIC CUTS IN PROGRAMS

[10.] Q. Mr. President, are you sending to Chairman Mills a list of specific cuts in programs?

THE PRESIDENT. I have not. No.

I think it must be clear to all of you that the President, in response to the request made by the Ways and Means Committee, said we would review the appropriation bills when they reached us.

Now, I will illustrate what I mean by that this way: There are 15 appropriation bills. Ten of those bills are still pending in the Congress.

On the HEW bill, for instance—Health, Education, and Welfare—the House passed one bill. The Senate passed another bill, adding funds to the House bill.

The views of the House and Senate are now attempting to be reconciled in conference.

The President does not know whether he will get the House bill or whether he will get the Senate bill; whether he will get the lower bill; whether he will get the higher bill; or what kind of bill he will get.

It is pretty difficult to determine what you can do in the way of impounding funds or reducing them until you know what version you are going to get.

For instance, if there are substantial amounts that are added to the budget, it would be very easy to conserve those.

If there are substantial amounts reduced

from the budget, it would be much more difficult.

This is a responsibility of the Congress.

The President's view is the view presented in his budget. That is the President's recommendation. That is the Cabinet's recommendation. That is the Budget's recommendation.

Now, if the Congress feels that something should be increased, as it has felt in some areas such as the veterans bill we signed the other day, such as the insurance bill we vetoed the other day, such as the pay bill that has been reported out of the House committee—that is a function, and an appropriate one, a proper one for the Congress.

The President has great reluctance to go further than he has recommended in his budget. And he would do so only in consultation with the Congress.

On the other hand, I am very anxious to be cooperative with them and to attempt to find an area of agreement with them.

When they act on these matters and give me their decision on the matter, I want to really stretch myself to try to accept it, if possible.

Now, what their decision is going to be, I don't know. The President's decision was made in his budget.

He has stated to them, because they have asked him to in connection with the tax message—and I refer you to that message,⁴ that being the administration's position—that we would review the bills.

For instance, if they had added substantial amounts to them, we would try to withhold some of those additions.

If they had reduced them, then that would be more difficult to do. But we would care-

⁴ For the President's message to Congress on the budget and the economy, and for his news conference following the message, see Items 329 and 330.

fully review and evaluate each one of them after they come to us.

NEED FOR A TAX INCREASE

[11.] Q. Mr. President, we are approaching the final quarter of the year now. Is there anything in the business or economic outlook that you see ahead that would alter your view on a tax increase?

THE PRESIDENT. No. I think the very small 1 percent average tax that we suggested on income is very desirable.⁵

I believe firmly, now even more than I did when I recommended a tax last January and when I added to it last August, that if we don't follow the recommendations that we have made to increase our revenues, we won't be avoiding a tax. We will get a tax either way. You either get the tax recommended by the best economists and by the Cabinet officials, by the Federal Reserve Board and others, or you will get an inaction inflationary tax.

It is our view that the inflationary tax will be more burdensome, more costly, more dangerous, and more undesirable than the tax that we have indicated.

Now, most people like to vote for appropriations and be against tax measures. That

⁵ The Revenue and Expenditure Control Act of 1968 was approved by the President on June 28, 1968 (Public Law 90-364, 82 Stat. 251).

is traditional. That is historic. You don't see any pickets going up and down the streets saying, "We want more taxes." That just doesn't happen. But most people also are responsible and they want to be fiscally responsible.

When you realize that we have had two tax reductions—and if we had not had those reductions we would take in almost \$24 billion more this year than we will take in—I think if they study it carefully they will find that the \$7 billion plus we are asking for is not an unreasonable request when we would have taken in \$24 billion except for the reductions we have made.

We think that that small request we have made of just 1 percent of the income of the average person is very necessary if we are to avoid the evil effects of a more burdensome tax, namely, an inflationary tax, a weakening of the dollar, increased interest rates—high and ruinous interest rates—with a big blow to our homebuilding program.

We think that every day the delay that takes place not only costs us many millions of dollars each day, but also increases the danger each day of the inflation tax.

Merriman Smith, United Press International: Thank you, Mr. President.

NOTE: President Johnson's one hundred and eleventh news conference was held at the LBJ Ranch, Johnson City, Texas, at 12:23 p.m. on Saturday, September 30, 1967.

412 Memorandum on Inaugurating a Test Program To Reduce Hard-Core Unemployment. October 2, 1967

Memorandum for:

The Secretary of Defense

The Secretary of Commerce

The Secretary of Labor

*The Secretary of Health, Education,
and Welfare*

*The Secretary of Housing and Urban
Development*

*The Administrator of General Services
Administration*

*The Director of Office of Economic
Opportunity*

The Administrator of Small Business Administration

We are launching today a major test program to mobilize the resources of private industry and the Federal Government to help find jobs and provide training for thousands of America's hard-core unemployed.

The heart of this new effort is to reach the forgotten and the neglected—those citizens handicapped by poor health, hampered by inadequate education, hindered by years of discrimination, and by-passed by conventional training programs.

To succeed in this venture will take more than promises or good intentions. It will require—on an unprecedented scale—the concerted action and involvement of the private sector, working closely with the Federal Government.

As we embark on this new course, let us be clear about what is involved: our purpose is not to hand out but to help up, to help provide every American the opportunity for a good job at a good wage.

Our goal is to replace the waste and failure of unemployment with the productivity of meaningful work.

We call upon private industry to join us in tackling one of America's most urgent domestic problems. I have no doubt that the private sector will respond. For we have witnessed in the past few months a remarkable series of events which attests to the dedication of American business in meeting the needs of the society in which it flourishes:

—On September 12, 1967, the insurance companies in this country agreed to commit \$1 billion of their funds for investments in city core areas to improve housing conditions and to finance job creating enterprises. Some of these resources are already financing promising housing projects and insurance company

executives and officials of this Administration are working together to develop other projects.

—A project has been launched to use surplus Federal lands to meet the housing needs of our cities in which the efforts of private developers will be the most important single element.

—A Committee, headed by Edgar F. Kaiser and composed of distinguished industrialists, bankers, labor leaders and specialists in urban affairs is examining every possible means of encouraging the development of a large-scale efficient construction and rehabilitation industry to reclaim the corroded core of the American city.

—Upon the recommendation of the Kaiser Committee we have begun the "Turnkey Plus" project to encourage private industry not only to develop and build, but also to *manage* public housing.

In this effort, we will again attempt to bring the great resources of the private sector to bear on a critical national problem. Through the great talents and energies of private industry, with full support from the Federal Government, we hope to:

—Bring new job training opportunities in existing plants to the hard core unemployed.

—Create new jobs and new training opportunities for the seriously disadvantaged in plants which will be established in or near areas of concentrated unemployment.

—Encourage new enterprises combining the resources of big and small businesses to provide jobs and job training opportunities for the disadvantaged.

To initiate this effort, the resources of the Departments of Commerce, Defense, Labor, Health, Education and Welfare, and Housing and Urban Development, the Office of

Economic Opportunity, the General Services Administration and the Small Business Administration will be combined to provide maximum assistance and to minimize the added cost of those in private industry willing to assume responsibility for providing training and work opportunities for the seriously disadvantaged.

Initially, nearly \$40 million from a wide variety of existing programs will be made available, as will millions of dollars worth of surplus Federal property and excess Federal equipment.

We will offer to private industry:

- A full spectrum of aid to assist them in recruiting, counseling, training, and providing health and other needed services to the disadvantaged.
- Aid which will enable them to experiment with new ways to overcome the transportation barriers now separating men and women from jobs.
- Surplus Federal land, technical assistance and funds to facilitate the construction of new plants in or near areas of concentrated unemployment.
- Excess Federal equipment to enable them to train more disadvantaged people.
- Assistance to joint enterprises combining the resources of big and small businesses to bring jobs and training opportunities to the disadvantaged.

I have asked the Secretary of Commerce and the Secretary of Labor to direct this test program and insure that all available Federal resources are utilized. The Secretary of Commerce will designate a full-time Special Representative as the single point of contact for private employers participating in this project. The Special Representative will pro-

vide employers with one-stop service for the entire Federal Government and will make whatever arrangements are appropriate with the various Federal agencies for all forms of Federal assistance.

The Secretary of Labor will designate a full-time officer in the Manpower Administration to work with the Special Representative of the Secretary of Commerce in connection with the training and employment elements of these projects.

I have also asked the Secretaries of Defense, Health, Education and Welfare, and Housing and Urban Development, the Director of the Office of Economic Opportunity, the Administrators of the General Services Administration and the Small Business Administration to assist the Secretaries of Commerce and Labor in this test program and to assign a single official in their agencies who will coordinate their efforts in support of this program.

Provision will be made for continuing liaison with local projects and for careful research and evaluation to crystallize field experience into guidelines for future action.

I have asked the Secretary of Commerce to invite corporations throughout the country to join this new effort to bring meaningful employment to disadvantaged citizens both in existing plants and, where feasible, in new locations near areas of concentrated unemployment.

I have directed each Department and Agency of this Government to give top priority to all phases of this important effort.

LYNDON B. JOHNSON

NOTE: In the memorandum the President referred to Edgar F. Kaiser, Chairman of the President's Committee on Urban Housing.

413 Remarks Upon Signing the Vocational Rehabilitation Act Amendments of 1967. October 3, 1967

Secretary Gardner, Under Secretary Cohen, Miss Switzer, Members of Congress, ladies and gentlemen:

Eight years ago in Portage, Pennsylvania, a 20-year machinist dived into a swimming hole and struck his head. Thus, he was paralyzed for life.

Even before that accident, he was handicapped; he had been partially deaf since his birth. Now he was not only deaf, but he was sentenced to another kind of life imprisonment. In many ways, that seemed to be a very, very hopeless case.

Today, that "hopeless case" is a very successful draftsman. He makes a good living with a design firm near Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. He pays his taxes. He is a member of the community—instead of its helpless ward.

All of that is true because he was helped, helped right from the start by a counselor from the Pennsylvania Bureau of Rehabilitation.

The law that I am going to sign today makes such stories as this possible. It brings them into reality. Thousands of them. Half a million exactly in the last 4 years. Since Woodrow Wilson's day it has helped more than 2 million Americans who—in one way or other—would be equally "hopeless cases."

As much as any law on the books, this law reveals what great possibilities every person has—and what, I believe, a great heart we have in America.

Last year, we helped restore 173,000 people to useful lives. Three-fourths of them had been unemployed—20 percent of them were already on welfare.

Today, every one of them are taxpayers. This program reaps five tax dollars for every dollar that we sow. And measured in human

happiness, its value is beyond all of our counting.

So this moment is more than just a ritual. Today we express again our purpose in America: fulfillment for the individual. We aim to knock down every barrier that keeps a child or a man from realizing his full potential in our country.

The history of these years, I believe, when it is written, will be the story of how we in America accomplished that goal.

A rather bitter writer once gave this definition of history: "The account, mostly false, of events, mostly unimportant, which were brought about by rulers, mostly knaves. . . ."

Well, I disagree with him on all counts.

History, I am convinced, will remember these years as a great awakening in America.

In these years, we discovered poverty in the midst of plenty—and we did something about it—not as much as we would like—but we did all that we could get a majority to do.

If historians seek a name for this age in the United States, I hope that they will call it the Age of Education.

Our Government guarantees to all of its citizens all the education that he or she can take.

In the past 6 years, the number of young people going to college from poor homes has risen by more than 12 percent.

In 6 years, the number of high school dropouts has dropped—from 25 percent to 18 percent of our young people between 16 and 24.

I regret we have 18 percent. But I would much rather have 18 than 25 that we started with.

If men in the future want to suggest the

range of our achievements, I think they could do it in only two sentences:

"The American people in 3 years, multiplied their commitment to health and education 4 times over. They passed more laws and they committed more funds to the education of our children—and to the health of our people—in 3 years than in all the previous history of America put together."

Junior colleges are now being founded in America at the rate of one per week.

By 1965, new Federal programs were helping 500,000 young people go to college and without that help, they might not have had a chance. Next year—I want all of you to get this—we will be helping 1,200,000; so we have doubled the number that we helped go to college—more than doubled it in the last 2 years—500,000 to 1,200,000.

Those to me are not just numbers. They are miracles. They represent human lives which are being changed and human lives which are being enriched.

They mean that a new idea is already at work here in America.

Once, we thought of rehabilitation as something for the physically handicapped. This law is evidence of that. But now we have learned that other handicaps yield to the same treatment. The handicap of ignorance for example. Mental handicaps are another. The handicap of poverty is another.

Rehabilitation, in fact, has become a basic idea in our country. We act on the belief that every man—no matter what his color, no matter what his bank account, no matter what his handicap, no matter what his IQ—has abilities which America needs.

That is a new idea. But it is a great idea. It is like discovering a new country right in our midst—the territory of human promise. That idea promises not more welfare, but more well-being for all—well-being for our people—the people we are selected to serve.

So we come here to the East Room of the White House this afternoon to continue this program. To continue it—and to add much to it that is new:

This law extends rehabilitation service to migrant laborers—the poorest among us, the most needy among us.

It increases Federal support for rehabilitation here in our Nation's Capital.

And finally, it strikes at one of the most baffling and heartbreaking handicaps that we can imagine: the double handicap of deaf-blindness. For years, that problem seemed too difficult for us. Now, by establishing a National Center for Deaf-Blind Youth and Adults, we hope to change all of that.

To all the supporters of this law in Congress, to all the Members of the House and Senate who are here this afternoon on behalf of all the Nation, I want to say the Nation owes you a debt of thanks.

I would like to call each of your names. I am sure I would overlook some and make some of you offended. But I must refer to Senator Hill, who is always in the limelight to anything that is good for health and education in this country—to Congressman Perkins, to Congressman Daniels, and to their committee members.

They gave this law dedicated—and bipartisan—support.

In the next few years, this law will turn hope into achievement for thousands of our people.

And it will prove something to us and to history: that in America there is no such thing as a "hopeless case."

Before I conclude—because I couldn't go to the Capitol yesterday—I want to pay my respects, my very great esteem and affection to that grand young man who was 90 yesterday, Carl Hayden.

I have never known a better public servant.

I have never known a better human being. And I have never had a better friend. I am so glad he could be here today.

NOTE: The President spoke at 5:07 p.m. in the East Room at the White House. In his opening words he referred to John W. Gardner, Secretary of Health, Education, and Welfare, Wilbur J. Cohen, Under

Secretary, and Mary E. Switzer, Commissioner of Vocational Rehabilitation. Later he referred to Senator Lister Hill of Alabama, Representative Carl D. Perkins of Kentucky, Representative Dominick V. Daniels of New Jersey, and Senator Carl Hayden of Arizona.

As enacted, the bill (H.R. 12257) is Public Law 90-99 (81 Stat. 250).

414 Statement by the President on Asking for a Report on the Economic Condition of the Textile and Apparel Industries.

October 4, 1967

I HAVE today asked the United States Tariff Commission to report to me by January 15, 1968, in the fullest detail possible on the economic condition of the United States textile and apparel industries. In this report, I expect in particular an intensive analysis of the present and prospective impact of imports upon these industries.

This administration has consistently acted in recognition of the fact that the textile and apparel industries are of great importance to our economy. In recent months representatives of these industries have expressed to me and to many others a deep concern over their future well-being in light of a number of factors, and especially import trends. A large number of the Members of the Congress in both the House and Senate—including

Chairman Mills of the Ways and Means Committee—have sponsored bills which deal with the question of imports.

In considering this widespread concern, I have concluded that we must have all the facts possible to guide our future actions in this important field, and I am pleased that Chairman Mills is joining my request. I hope that the Tariff Commission's report will permit all of us who are deeply interested in the welfare of the textile and apparel industries to take a course of action which will be both in their interest and the national interest.

NOTE: The report is entitled "Textiles and Apparel: Report to the President on Investigation No. 332-55 Under Section 332 of the Tariff Act of 1930" (2 vols., TC Publication 226). It was received by the President on January 15, 1968.

415 Remarks at a National Conference of Cooperative Organizations. *October 4, 1967*

Secretary Freeman, Secretary Wirtz, ladies and gentlemen:

I appreciate very much your welcome. My coming here brought a great deal of enthusiasm from my Cabinet. They are all rather insistent that I come early and stay late because we have a Cabinet meeting scheduled at 12 o'clock. Some of them want to put it off as long as they can.

It was about 100 years ago when a visitor to our very young country at that time commented on what he believed to be a remarkable American trait.

De Tocqueville said, "The Americans make associations to give entertainments, to found seminaries, to build inns, to construct churches, to diffuse books, to send missionaries. . . . Wherever at the head of some

new undertaking you see the government in France, or a man of rank in England, in the United States you will be sure to find an association."

As we meet here this morning, these associations have pervaded every facet of our American life. Some of the best of these associations are referred to today as cooperatives.

I have observed in my years of public service that the cooperatives represent some of the best in America.

They represent initiative at its most creative—groups of people joining together for a common goal, combining their labor together to bring themselves what we all seek most—a better way of life.

They represent a deep belief in the potential of our country, in the future of America, as a land where we want to see no one go hungry, or lack for medical care, or clothes, or be driven off of his land.

In the past 3 years, I am told that 133 cooperative credit unions have been organized by low-income families in depressed rural areas as well as the city slums.

These credit unions are offering fair rates of interest. They are trying to lead and to teach our people how to save. They are helping them take the first steps toward responsibility and ultimately toward financial independence.

In Clarksdale, Mississippi, for example, a young mother came to the credit union with a problem. She had bought a stove and agreed to pay \$17 a month on it—one-third of her total income. The credit union officers showed her that she was paying 35 percent interest.

The credit union loaned her the money to pay for the stove, and now she is making payments that she can afford—although it is rather high, at 12 percent interest.

Small farmers are banding together in

cooperatives to market their crops, to get fair credit, to buy supplies.

Near Sunset, Louisiana, a co-op was formed to market sweet potatoes. Year before last the average net income was \$2,300. Last season, the co-op got the farmer \$900 more for his potatoes. That \$900 pulled him up barely across the poverty threshold into our more affluent American society.

These cooperatives are holding open the door of economic opportunity to the family farmer. They are making it possible for some of them to stay on the farm rather than be forced to migrate to a distant and alien city.

In eastern Ohio, 120 farm families were ready to call it quits. Their hills were covered with brush—no fit pasture for their livestock. As a last ditch effort, they organized a co-op. They borrowed money. They bought two bulldozers, a heavy disk and a seeder, and then they seeded their land.

Now these families are trying to stick it out. They are on their way, I believe, to a satisfying and rewarding life.

Cooperatives in cities are assuring more Americans proper medical treatment. Members of the Seattle health cooperative prepay their doctors, so they are not reluctant to consult them early and often. As a result of this preventive medicine, co-op members spend less than half the number of days in the hospital as other Seattle residents.

Cooperatives are instilling a sense of belonging, a sense of proprietorship, a sense of responsibility in all of our citizens.

During the riots in Detroit, two racially integrated housing cooperatives in the center of the burned area were patrolled by their co-op members. Not a windowpane was shattered, and not a building was burned.

So, I am glad to be able to take this time this morning to come here to salute you and to participate with you in recognizing and in celebrating Co-Op Month, 1967. The co-

operatives play a vital part in building a better land, in building a better country, in building a better America.

"The highest and the best form of efficiency," as Woodrow Wilson once said, "is the spontaneous cooperation of a free people."

We get spontaneous cooperation nowhere better than we get it from a co-op.

It leads in many directions—in a better spiritual life, better health, better education, better bodies, and better minds.

We join them because we want to get more for our dollar when we buy, and we want to get more for our product when we sell.

When we borrow, we want to get it at as low a rate as possible.

All of those things motivate us to belong to the cooperative.

But after we do belong, there are many fringe benefits. From those fringe benefits come a stronger country and a better country.

And with all of our martyrdom, with all of our complaints, with all of our sufferings, our inconveniences, our discriminations, our setbacks, our reverses, and our frustrations, I think that all of us have good enough judgment to know that we are on the way, that we are moving, that we are getting

better every day. Things are really relative after all.

Where is the society, where is the plot of land, where is the form of government that you would like to exchange on even terms for ours?

Sometimes our country is like our family. We reserve the right to express ourselves quite freely. But when we come to finding someone better in the kitchen, or a son or a daughter that we would like to trade for someone else, it is another matter.

So, I say to you that I am very proud of the cooperative movement in this country, and not just what it gives us in immediate dollar benefits, but in the fringe benefits that have contributed a great deal, I think, to making this Nation and this system the envy of all the world.

Go back and get with it, and keep at it.

Thank you.

NOTE: The President spoke at 11:35 a.m. in the Departmental Auditorium. In his opening words he referred to Orville L. Freeman, Secretary of Agriculture, and W. Willard Wirtz, Secretary of Labor. The group was composed of delegates to a week-long conference sponsored by several Federal departments and agencies, nine cooperative organizations, and the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations.

416 Statement by the President Following the Return of a Mission To Survey the Scientific and Technological Assets and Needs of the Republic of China. *October 5, 1967*

I AM delighted with the cordial reception given Dr. Hornig and his colleagues by the Chinese Government and by the interest shown in their mission. American experience in expanding industry should be a valuable resource to draw upon in strengthening science and technology as a basis for social and economic progress in Taiwan. I look forward to new cooperative efforts

which will make use of American experience in improving higher education, industrial research, and business management.

NOTE: The President's statement was made public as part of a White House release summarizing a report to the President by Dr. Donald F. Hornig, Special Assistant to the President for Science and Technology, and the team of experts who had accompanied him to Taiwan in mid-September 1967. The mission had been arranged by President Johnson

the previous May during the visit of Vice President C. K. Yen of the Republic of China.

The release noted that Dr. Hornig and the members of his party had commented favorably on the growth of industry and agriculture in Taiwan and on the climate the Chinese Government had created for foreign investment. They recommended a continuation of U.S. cooperation in developing the industrial and educational capacity of the country.

The release listed the members of Dr. Hornig's team as follows: Dr. James B. Fisk, president, Bell

Telephone Laboratories, Murray Hill, N.J.; Dr. Bruce S. Old, senior vice president, A. D. Little Inc., Cambridge, Mass.; Dr. Albert H. Moseman, associate, Agricultural Development Council, New York, N.Y.; Dr. Raymond Bowers, professor of physics, Cornell University, Ithaca, N.Y.; and Daniel F. Margolies, Foreign Service officer, presently on the staff of the Office of Science and Technology.

The text of the release is printed in the *Weekly Compilation of Presidential Documents* (vol. 3, p. 1389).

417 The President's News Conference of *October 5, 1967*

THE PRESIDENT. [I.] I have summoned you to this hastily called, impromptu press conference for the purpose of giving you some information that I think you will be interested in. That information is that we are signing a continuing resolution providing funds for the operation of the Government for another 3 weeks.

I have a brief statement here. It will be distributed to you shortly. If you want to follow it as we go through, I will go slowly enough so you can make some notes on it.

REDUCTION IN FEDERAL SPENDING; THE TAX BILL

I have signed House Joint Resolution 853.¹ This measure provides continuing appropriations for 3 more weeks until October 23, 1967, for those agencies whose regular appropriations for fiscal 1968 have not as yet been enacted by the Congress. Four have been enacted.

Of the 14 major appropriations bills recommended in January, 10 are still pending in the Congress. My recommendations on each of these bills are unmistakably clear. They have been before the Congress for 9 months.

Over the past several days, the House has debated this continuing resolution. I have signed it here.

During that debate and during hearings before the House Ways and Means Committee, there have been numerous statements calling for unspecified reductions in fiscal 1968 expenditures.

Just a few days ago, in fact, a majority of the Members voting in the House expressed the desire for unidentified reductions in Federal expenditures—many wanted a \$5 billion reduction in fiscal 1968.

A reduction of \$5 billion in fiscal 1968 expenditures would require appropriations cuts of up to \$10 billion, a reduction many times larger than the entire Congress by its specific appropriations actions to date has been willing to make.

Against this background, it is essential for the Nation and the Congress to recognize these key facts about the budget:

First, the budget I submitted last January for fiscal 1968 represented the best judgment of the President, his economic and budget advisers, and his Cabinet and the directors of the independent agencies.

That budget was carefully drawn, fiscally responsible, and prudent. It represented a reduction by the President of \$27 billion from the requests made by the civilian agencies

¹ Public Law 90-102 (81 Stat. 256).

and the military services. I believed then and I believe now that at that time the administration's budget represented the best allocation of Federal resources to meet the Nation's needs.

Second, last July and August it became apparent that revenues would be lower than anticipated and that defense expenditures, always difficult to estimate in the middle of a war, were rising.

I immediately consulted with the congressional leadership and the Chairman and the ranking minority member of the House Ways and Means Committee. After those consultations with the bipartisan leadership of both Houses, I reviewed the request made in January for a tax increase. That January request was raised to provide for a total tax of about one penny on each dollar of income.

I stated then, and I state now that this tax will be less of a burden, in my judgment, on the average American family than the inflation tax that will come if the Congress refuses to face up to its responsibility.

All taxes are burdensome, but the cruelest tax of all is the inflation tax that will follow inaction of the Congress.

Third, at the time of my tax message, I directed a review of each appropriation bill as it was passed in an effort to eliminate amounts equivalent to those that might be added by the Congress as well as to recommend "every possible expenditure reduction—civilian and military—short of jeopardizing the Nation's security and well-being."

That is a quote from my tax message.²

I did this only because it appeared that the Congress was unlikely to make any substantial reductions in the budget in overall

amounts and in certain areas might actually vote to increase it. In fact, some of the first bills reaching me this year—the Government employees insurance bill, which I vetoed, the veterans benefit bill—contained large increases.

Moreover, the House will have before it shortly the civilian pay bill.³ As reported out of committee, that bill already exceeds my 4½ percent pay raise recommendation and will add at least \$63 million to my fiscal 1968 budget and some \$350 million to \$400 million to the fiscal 1969 budget.

Fourth, of a total budget expenditure of over \$136 billion recommended in the January budget, \$115 billion or more are for national security or expenditures fixed by law (such as veterans benefits and medical payments) and binding contracts already signed as authorized by the Congress over which the President has little or no discretion. Only the Congress can repeal or amend the laws under which most of these funds must be spent.

There remains some \$21 billion in expenditures. The expenditures in the major civilian appropriation bills subject to reduction are as follows:

<i>Enacted:</i>	<i>Million</i>
Treasury, Post Office	\$900
Interior and related agencies	700

Secretary Barr,⁴ speaking for the Treasury, reported to the Treasury and Post Office Committee this morning in connection with that bill. The Interior Secretary reported to his appropriate subcommittee his views yesterday or the day before.

The other bill is the legislative appropriation bill. That is a matter for Congress.

³ For the President's remarks upon signing the Postal Revenue and Federal Salary Act of 1967, see Item 546.

⁴ Joseph W. Barr, Under Secretary of the Treasury.

² For the message and related news conference, see Items 329 and 330.

Pending: Not received or signed

	<i>Billion</i>
Agriculture and related agencies.	\$3. 1
HUD and independent offices.	2. 9
NASA	3. 6
Labor-HEW	3. 6
Public works, including AEC.	2. 2
State, Justice, Commerce, etc.	1. 6
Transportation	1. 1
Foreign assistance and related agencies, excluding military aid	1. 0
Other items awaiting authorization .....	. 9
Total major civilian bills.	\$21. 6

Fifth, the executive branch cannot spend 1 dollar, hire one employee, or let one contract without appropriation or authorization by the Congress. If a majority of the Members of the House and Senate desire wholesale cuts in Government spending, the course is through the normal appropriation process—the careful examination by the Congress of specific appropriations for specific programs. This has been a procedure woven deeply into the experience and tradition of the American Government.

Those House Members who now urge unidentified budget reductions can specify where to cut, and by how much—just as the President did in reviewing agency budget requests and preparing his budget for the Congress in January.

The Congress has ample opportunity to cut specific programs in the 10 major appropriation bills still pending in the Congress. We will try to come into agreement with the legislative branch on the three bills already acted upon by the Congress and the President.

I would interpolate that we have done that in the two instances and the legislative appropriation bill is a matter for them. We

have gone before them and submitted our views.

The historic power of the Congress over the appropriations process is a sound tradition. The appropriation process is far preferable to a procedure which imposes an overall expenditure limitation inconsistent with prior and subsequent appropriation action and which explicitly assigns to the President blank check power to make wholesale reductions in expenditures without the approval or checks by the Congress.

I am deeply concerned about the cost of the delay in enacting a tax bill, not only in the approximate \$20 million that we are losing each day now in revenues, but also in sharply rising prices and interest rates. For example:

—3-month Treasury bills have risen from a 1967 low of 3.33 percent to 4.52 percent yesterday.

—6-month Treasury bills from 3.71 percent to 5.06 percent.

—12-month Treasury bills from 3.80 percent to 5.15 percent.

—1-year Federal agency paper from 4.35 percent to 5.60 percent.

—AA corporate bonds from 5.22 percent to 6.33 percent.

—New municipal bonds from 3.40 percent to 4.19 percent.

Failure of the Congress to act on the tax legislation is costing not only the Federal Government, but millions of Americans, many millions of dollars in interest rates—when they buy their homes or their automobiles or borrow money to send their children to college. And continued failure to act will cost many millions more in inflated prices as each week passes.

The President cannot take over the appropriation process. The executive branch cannot impound appropriations until both Houses of the Congress are in agreement

and have passed the appropriations to be impounded.

This is not a problem of parties or politics—and should not be permitted to become a partisan matter. For it involves the fundamental powers—and responsibilities—of the legislative and executive branches in our democracy.

It is my considered view that it neither is necessary nor wise to delay action upon the tax measure until the final passage of all the appropriations acts and the announcement of any additional reductions or deferrals by administrative acts consistent with the pledges that I made in my tax message.

There may be some differences between the Congress and the Executive on how much of a tax increase or how much of a definable expenditure reduction is appropriate.

But I would hope that the administration and those responsible for the legislative process could develop an appropriate procedure for resolving any differences that might exist.

The Secretary of the Treasury and the Director of the Budget have been ready all this week—and stand ready today—to work with the House Ways and Means Committee and the House Appropriations Committee, and other appropriate congressional committees to this end.

They are ready to explore the various alternative procedures pursuant to and consistent with my tax message that lead to a resolution of this impasse involving the appropriation process in the House Appropriations Committee, the taxing process in the House Ways and Means Committee, and the actual expenditure of appropriated funds involving the President, the Director of the Budget, and various department and agency authorities.

The American taxpayer is entitled to an

efficient and responsive Government. He is entitled to have the House and the Senate coordinate their efforts and make the wishes of the Congress on appropriations bills known in a clear and a timely manner.

Whatever the wish of the Congress, I ask that it act promptly. I pledge to do my best to cooperate wherever I can in good conscience.

I shall be glad to take any questions on the subject to clarify the statement or explore it further if you want to.⁵

QUESTIONS

[2.] Q. Mr. President, have you, yourself, decided how much could be squeezed out of that \$21 billion that I think is called inflatable sometimes?

THE PRESIDENT. We do not know what will be in those bills until they come to us.

As a hypothetical example, let us take appropriation bill "A". This is not an actual case, but let us assume the budget request was \$5 billion. Let us assume the House carefully pruned and cut it to \$4 billion and the Senate added to it, making it \$6 billion.

We do not know whether we are cutting \$4 billion or \$5 billion or \$6 billion. Obviously, if the \$6 billion came to us and we had only asked for \$5 billion to begin with, we probably would be able to reduce it by a billion dollars or more.

But if the \$4 billion came to us and it had been cut already a billion dollars, you would have an entirely different proposition.

Also, some items may be added to that which we think are not necessary—and some

⁵ For the President's statement on December 19, 1967, upon signing House Joint Resolution 888 providing further continuing appropriations for fiscal year 1968, with provisions for reducing Government spending, see Item 556.

that we think are highly necessary may be taken from it—which would create other problems.

There would not be any great delay, however, if the House and Senate consider these matters and make their decisions. The general process is for them to decide how much they want to cut or how much they want to increase.

Now if the House by a majority vote—as it did the other day in recommitting this resolution—feels very strongly on reductions—the House has passed these bills now and we are prepared to go before them and say, “Here are the reducible amounts. After you tell us how much we will be allowed, we will either sign the bill when it comes to us or veto it, and give you a chance to override the veto.”

I am glad to say we haven’t had to veto any. A good many bills are in Congress and could come to us in a reasonably short time. We hope they do. We hope they will come containing the judgment of the Congress, so it wouldn’t be necessary to take any further action.

[3.] Q. Mr. President, has Congress explained to you why they want you to specify the reductions or do you have a theory on it, rather than for them to do it?

THE PRESIDENT. I don’t think the Congress has stated any position to me on it. There have been individual statements by individual people. I do not know that they are all in agreement.

For instance, members of the Senate Appropriations Committee could feel quite differently from members of the House Ways and Means Committee, or members of the House Ways and Means Committee could feel very differently from members of the House Appropriations Committee, or the House Labor and Education Committee.

So it is a matter for them to come to an

agreement among themselves first. We cannot impound funds from an agreement reached by the House and Senate until the House and Senate agree. A good many of these bills are still in conference and they have not resolved the differences between themselves.

[4.] Q. Mr. President, your statement speaks as if there is something of an institutional breakdown between the Executive and legislative, and I think you also called for some better procedure for resolving this.

Do you have any specifics in mind for a different procedure? Has there been an institutional breakdown that needs to be remedied with a substitute procedure?

THE PRESIDENT. Did you say I thought there had been?

Q. I interpreted from your remarks that you had seen this as a breakdown.

THE PRESIDENT. I don’t believe I said that.

Q. You spoke about mixing up the appropriations process.

THE PRESIDENT. I said they have a difference of opinion that they have not resolved yet. The bills have been there for 9 months. When they act upon them, we want that to represent the majority judgment of the two bodies. Then we will immediately act upon them by signing or vetoing them.

[5.] Q. How much more would the inflation tax cost them than the 10 percent surcharge?

THE PRESIDENT. I don’t believe the extent of that can be predicted. I believe the testimony before the committee—if you will recall when the first witnesses appeared—indicated that at least some of the members of the committee felt that the economy might be sluggish and there might be reasons for not enacting a tax bill in that amount at that time because of the sluggish economy.

I believe as the testimony developed, most of the members indicated that they got away

from that viewpoint.

Then they got to the viewpoint of restraining expenditures. We—as we said in our message—are very anxious to have them act upon these and restrain any expenditures that they feel ought to and can be restrained. We want to do the same thing.

We believe both of them are important. We believe if you don't have restraint on expenditures and you don't have a tax bill, you will see an increase in the cost of living and in the Consumer Price Index, as we have been seeing with each report.

You will see an increase in interest rates. You will see a slackening off in the housing market, and these attendant developments that will follow inaction on the tax bill and inaction on restraints on appropriation bills.

There is a great deal of uncertainty when you are trying to let contracts, trying to make plans for a program and you are trying to operate in farflung places in this country, all 50 States, when after 9 months you don't have a decision on how much it is appropriate to spend there. So we think two things are important:

It is important to make a decision on the tax bill and it is important to make a decision in the appropriations bills.

Both of those decisions are pending in the Congress. Once they are made, whatever confirmation we have to take in connection with them—we can't veto a bill that doesn't come to us or we can't sign one that doesn't come to us—as soon as they come, we will have very prompt action within a period of a relatively few days.

We believe if neither action comes, we will have increases in the cost of living, the cost of money, a general weakening of the dollar, and general inflation that we will all have to bear, particularly those in the low-income group.

[6.] Q. Mr. President, you have given

us two examples, at least, of what you think will be the rather immediate effect if no tax increase is granted, or if your increase is not granted. One is the increase in the cost of money and the other is the slowdown of building of houses. Can you give us any other example of immediate effects as it affects the ordinary person?

THE PRESIDENT. Yes. I believe it results in a general inflationary spiral that has a tendency to increase prices across the board. It results in a higher cost of living for every family's cost of living. I think it will be reflected in all of the prices that you pay.

[7.] Q. Mr. President, at this point, what date would you hope the tax surcharge would go into effect?

THE PRESIDENT. The date is recommended in the message. I believe that is the better part of wisdom. It might have to be delayed a few weeks, a few days, on account of the collection problem on personal incomes, having passed the October 1st deadline. But as near those dates as possible.

We would not have an insurmountable problem on corporation taxes, but you might have to add just 30 days or a month and a half on personal.

[8.] Q. Mr. President, is this your reply to the Ways and Means Committee?

THE PRESIDENT. No. This is a statement. We do not want to reply and get into fights. They have not given us anything to reply to. The Congress has not sent me any message or bill or direct communication.

This is a statement. As I pointed out—I guess you had not come in when we signed this bill—that explains what this bill contains, a resolution for 3 weeks and the problems connected with the appropriation bills to which this referred.

This gives the Executive viewpoint on what we believe to be the importance from the national interest standpoint of acting in

the Congress on appropriations bills and on the tax recommendations.

[9.] Q. Mr. President, what happens after 3 weeks? This is continuing authority or why did you pick 3 weeks?

THE PRESIDENT. As the bills are passed, they come here, they are acted upon, and we sign them. This resolution applies only to bills which have not passed. I believe the House has passed all but three. Most of those bills will be acted upon by the Senate between now and October 23. Some of them will be down here and will be signed.

[10.] Q. Mr. President, when the Ways and Means Committee decided to put aside the tax bill until—as I recall they said—some understanding is worked out between Congress and the White House on spending reductions, did we understand you correctly that they did not communicate this action to you?

THE PRESIDENT. The Secretary of the Treasury was at the committee session representing the administration. He had certain proposals that he desired to make along the lines of my tax message and along the lines of what I said in this statement—that we will try to have the administration and the Congress agree on the restraints that the Congress desires put into effect.

I think it was the feeling of some of the members of that committee that they felt they should act upon the motion and consider any further agreements at a later date. We were ready that day, and we have been ready every day since—the Secretary of the Treasury and each department head—to appear before the Appropriations Committee or the Ways and Means Committee to express our views and to go as far as we can in carrying out the decision of the Congress.

Q. Mr. President, I am not sure I understand what you meant by that last thing there. Do you mean by what you said that

various Cabinet officials are ready and willing to go up and talk about specific cuts in their departments?

THE PRESIDENT. We have done that on the two bills we have received. When we receive the others, we will be delighted to do that. We have said that.

Q. What do you mean? Are they standing by ready to talk to Appropriations or Ways and Means?

THE PRESIDENT. Yes. I mean just what I said.

[11.] Q. Mr. President, am I correct in interpreting your statement here to mean that the administration at this point feels that the budget as submitted in January is correct and does not recommend any cuts in it?

THE PRESIDENT. That is correct.

[12.] Q. What about this process?

THE PRESIDENT. I don't want to leave you unclear. We have said that was our judgment when we made those recommendations. As each bill comes to us, we don't know what that bill may contain. They may substitute an amount that we request for the Job Corps in the form of a school program.

Our judgments on that could be quite different, although the amounts might not vary a great deal. We cannot really make an intelligent decision here until a decision is made by the Congress on the bill itself.

You may get the House form or the Senate form or the conference form. We said in our tax message that when we got them, we wouldn't know whether the Congress would add to them or subtract from them. In any event, we will look at what Congress appropriates.

We will try our best to save every penny we can and operate on the lowest possible amount consistent with security and the national interest.

[13.] Q. Mr. President, if the Congress

voted your bills as submitted, would this mean you would sign them as is?

THE PRESIDENT. Yes. It would mean that I would sign them as is. If they didn't change any items in them and we found that the situation on that particular item was the same as it was when we recommended it—as is generally the case—we would spend it that way. But if we found that the situation had changed and we had more in some cases—we have had to cut back on various items, maybe planes, or maybe ammunition or maybe personnel or things of that kind with changing conditions—we would cut back.

As a matter of fact, I believe in the last 2 years Congress has authorized and appropriated about \$3½ billion more than the Executive has used.

[14.] Q. Mr. President, Secretary McNamara announced today that he was deferring certain military construction. Is this in line with what you said about not being able to act on a bill until Congress passes it and sends it down to you?

THE PRESIDENT. I think that each agency understands that it can spend only at the rate of last year's appropriation and only until October 23d. Each Cabinet head is very careful not to obligate or to contract expenditures over and above the amount appropriated last year or beyond the date of October 23d.

Merriman Smith, United Press International: Thank you, Mr. President.

NOTE: President Johnson's one hundred and twelfth news conference was held in his office at the White House at 4:30 p.m. on Thursday, October 5, 1967. As printed above, this item follows the text of the Official White House Transcript.

418 Letter to the President of the Senate and to the Speaker of the House Proposing Additions to the National Wilderness Preservation System. *October 6, 1967*

Dear Mr. President: (Dear Mr. Speaker:)

Just 60 miles from the Los Angeles metropolitan area lies a wilderness of rocky cliffs and deep canyons inhabited only by rare California condors, deer, and other wildlife.

Just last February I asked the Congress to declare this area—the San Rafael Wilderness—a part of the National Wilderness Preservation System, both for the enjoyment of our own and future generations and as a symbol of man's respect for nature's work.

The Wilderness Act of 1964 gives us the authority to preserve this region and others like it. When I signed that Act in September 1964 I noted that it was a major conservation measure which would preserve millions of "acres of this vast continent in their original and unchanging beauty and wonder."

I now propose that three additional

areas—in California, Oregon, and Wyoming—also be proclaimed wilderness areas. This action will not cost the American taxpayer a penny. But it will enrich the lives of every citizen.

The Federal Government already has jurisdiction over these lands. They have been the subjects of open hearings and intensive studies and have been recommended by the Secretary of Agriculture for inclusion in the wilderness system.

These three areas are admirably suited to become additions to that system.

The proposed San Gabriel Wilderness in California is a part of the Angeles National Forest and comprises some 36,000 acres of primitive mountain terrain some 35 miles northeast of the City of Los Angeles. It is uninhabited and provides much needed op-

portunities for hiking, fishing, hunting, camping, and other public use.

The Mt. Jefferson Wilderness would comprise 96,000 acres now included within the Willamette, Deschutes, and Mt. Hood National Forests, some 60 miles from Salem, Oregon. This wilderness contains the second tallest peak in Oregon, nearly 150 lakes, 160 miles of trails, and good fishing and hunting.

The proposed Washakie Wilderness, Shoshone National Forest, Wyoming, includes nearly 680,000 acres. This area provides excellent hunting, a rugged region for hiking, and an opportunity to discover petri-

fied remains of ancient forests.

I urge the Congress to preserve these priceless national assets by approving their inclusion in the wilderness system.

Sincerely,

LYNDON B. JOHNSON

NOTE: This is the text of identical letters addressed to the Honorable Hubert H. Humphrey, President of the Senate, and to the Honorable John W. McCormack, Speaker of the House of Representatives.

Action on the proposed legislation was not completed during the first session of the 90th Congress.

For the President's letter of February 1, 1967, proposing establishment of the San Rafael Wilderness, see Item 29.

419 Statement by the President Upon Appointing a National Advisory Commission on Health Facilities. *October 6, 1967*

OUR HOSPITALS have been, and they remain, the core of the Nation's health care system. Thanks to the public-private partnership fostered by the Hill-Burton program virtually every American is within reach of a good hospital today.

Under the Hill-Burton partnership we have accomplished much:

- More than 3,500 communities have built hospitals, nursing homes, public health centers, and rehabilitation facilities with Federal help;
- Nearly 400,000 beds have been provided in hospitals and nursing homes;
- 1,283 health centers and 421 rehabilitation facilities have been established.

It is time to build upon that progress. But in building, we must do more than expand and continue existing programs. We must reshape them to fit the changing needs of today and tomorrow.

The demand for health care is expanding sharply in our land. There are more Americans to care for, every day. Medical miracles have raised the expectations of all Ameri-

cans. Many economic barriers to health care have been lowered through such programs as Medicare and Medicaid.

We cannot look at hospital facilities alone. They must be examined in relation to community and regional health needs and resources. The whole structure of health care delivery must be considered as we design the buildings and facilities of tomorrow. This task requires planning for the long and the short range. It requires imagination, energy, and broad cooperation. It is a difficult and complex job.

For these reasons I am today appointing a National Advisory Commission on Health Facilities to undertake a thorough study and to make recommendations.

The Commission will be under the chairmanship of Mr. Boisfeuillet Jones of Atlanta. Mr. Jones, president of the Emily and Ernest Woodruff Foundation, has long brought his skills to the field of health, as a consultant to the Congress and the executive branch, as a university vice president, and as the former Special Assistant for Health and Medical

Affairs in the Department of Health, Education, and Welfare.

The Commission will submit its report to me in approximately 1 year. It will make interim reports and recommendations as appropriate.

NOTE: The President's statement was made public as part of a White House release which noted that areas to be explored by the Commission would include financing, economics, and planning of hospitals and health facilities.

The release listed the members of the Commission, under the chairmanship of Mr. Jones, as follows: Dr. Samuel L. Andelman, commissioner of health, Chicago Board of Health; Dr. James Z. Appel, Lancaster, Pa., past president, American Medical Association; Mrs. Angie E. Ballif, Provo, Utah, director, Utah Division of Public Health and Welfare; George E. Cartmill, Jr., director, Harper Hospital, Detroit, Mich., past president, American

Hospital Association; Dr. Leonides G. Cigarroa, Laredo, Texas; Charles E. DeAngelis, Mountainside, N.J., vice president, Walter Kidde Constructors, Inc., New York City; Dr. James L. Dennis, vice president for medical affairs and dean, School of Medicine, University of Oklahoma, Oklahoma City; Conrad M. Fowler, probate judge and chairman, Shelby County Board of Revenue, Columbiana, Ala.; William L. Guy, Governor of North Dakota; Very Reverend Harrold A. Murray, director, Bureau of Health and Hospitals, United States Catholic Conference, Washington, D.C.; Howard N. Nemerovski, attorney, San Francisco, Calif.; Dr. David E. Rosengard, medical director, Rosengard Clinic, South Boston, Mass.; David Sullivan, general president, Building Service Employees International Union, New York City; and Mrs. Fay O. Wilson, professor and chairman, Nursing Department, Los Angeles City College, Los Angeles, Calif.

In his statement the President referred to the Hospital Survey and Construction Act of 1946 (Hill-Burton Act).

420 Remarks to Officials of the Federal Home Loan Bank System in Connection With the Observance of the System's 35th Anniversary. *October 6, 1967*

THIS IS a very thoughtful and very generous thing for you to do. It makes me feel good to know that you would want to do it—that you feel our relationship is such that we can both concentrate our efforts on trying to serve the general public as it is our responsibility to serve.

We often hear in Government about "This was a crisis," or "This is a crisis," or "This may be a crisis." Generally crisis comes to us from the word "decision." We are making decisions.

Every day there are decisions that I make and that you must make that have a great bearing on the prosperity of the country, the development of the country, and the general living conditions of the country. All of us are directly affected one way or the other by a good many things in our economy—our food, our clothes, our jobs, and our housing.

I want to address myself principally to the

savings and loans—with which you have a direct governmental responsibility—and the general subjects of savings and housing in our economy. And I may—if you have the time and we get around to it—speak on more unpleasant subjects, such as taxes in our economy. That is one subject nobody ever pickets us on—demanding the passage of tax bills.

I observe the members of the home loan banks and this Home Loan Bank Board here are concerned—and the staffs of about 5,000 members of your system. You have assets of \$145 billion. The savings and loan industry finances about 44 percent of America's home ownership and about 42 million people have savings accounts in savings and loan, insured associations.

So I can think of few endeavors that are more directly associated with the more important needs of the American people than

savings, housing, and loans.

It is your responsibility to assure the health of the savings and loan industry. We are all working to that end. We are trying to sustain a healthy economy. We have to have effective regulation. We have to have modern, 20th century practices.

We have to be prompt in our decisions to see that we correct whatever abuses appear before they appear. We never want to go back to the days of the blue-sky operations of the late twenties and early thirties when a great many homebuilding associations over the country were closing and popping like firecrackers on the Fourth of July.

Now last year we had a jolt to our economy that all of you were sensitive to and acquainted with. It was brought on by a period of tight money. And that is about as evil a thing as we can have—tight money.

That is very fresh, I think, in all of our memories. The thrift institutions and their customers, and the homebuilders in this country, and the home buyers in this country were the ones who really suffered and the ones who were hardest hit.

Tight money has a very strangling effect on mortgage credit—as you men know better than anyone else. These were some of the consequences:

First, we must not forget this: We must see what happened and try to avoid a repetition. Half a million homes were not built—500,000 of them—that would otherwise have been built. Still others will go unbuilt until the recovery is complete.

The buyers of the houses were saddled with extra payments for the life of the mortgage. Over the next 10 years, those extra payments alone, because of that situation, will amount to \$2.5 billion.

Now this country ought to know that. It ought to know that is the penalty, that is the price, that is the fine we are paying for a

situation that we could not control.

Because it became more difficult to sell existing houses, many workers were unable to change their locations and to go to better jobs. They had to pay a fine for that and a penalty for that.

We took steps to take the heat out of the economy, and now there are encouraging signs of a turnaround in that situation.

Housing starts have reached an annual rate of about 1.4 million units. That is 40 percent higher than the average during the second half of last year—40 percent higher than the average during the second half of last year. But that still is not high enough to meet the housing needs of this dynamic economy and these prosperous American people.

I doubt that there are many in this room now—with the possible exception of the speaker—who are completely satisfied with their housing accommodations. I don't know if I were building my bedroom but what I would make some changes over there.

Housing permits now issued are averaging 1.1 million—the highest level since May 1966.

The institutions you supervise—which are the real bloodstream of the whole building industry—reflect this new health.

In the first 8 months of this year, these institutions attracted almost \$7 billion in savings. That is nearly nine times as much as last year. That is a phenomenal, unbelievable fact.

These institutions committed \$3.5 billion in loans—most of it for building new houses, some of it for financing the purchase of old ones. Now, this is an alltime high.

Last year, these institutions have been able to pay back more than \$3 billion of their debt to the Home Loan Bank System. That debt is now lower—that debt to the Home Loan Bank System—than it has been in over 3 years.

But all of these gains are going to be lost

if we let ourselves drift back into a tight money period again. All the indicators warn that this is going to happen unless we can pass our tax proposal, which calls for a tax on the individual of an average of only 1 cent of every dollar earned.¹

Now, it took us many months to get the Federal Reserve and the Treasury experts, the Council of Economic Advisers, the Budget Director, and the fiscal counselors to the President—which would include the Secretary of Commerce, because of the business people; which would include the Secretary of Labor, because of the working people; and which would include the Secretary of Defense, because of the great purchases that are involved there, the contracts let, and the effect of a \$70 billion budget on the economy—to agree and find an area of agreement.

But we did that. In January we submitted our recommendation that we take a little more than a half a cent out of every dollar, in the form of a surtax which was 6 percent.

However, because expenses rose and war costs went up, and because revenues went down as a result of some of these things we are talking about here—the high interest rate—between January and July, when the new fiscal year began, that 6-month period, we decided that instead of asking for a little more than half a cent out of a dollar, we should ask for 1 penny out of a dollar—instead of a 6 percent surtax.

It is not a 6 percent tax; it is a 6 percent surtax. That surtax confused a lot of people—that little over half a cent. We should ask for 1 penny out of the dollar or 10 percent. So we did that.

We are urging the Congress to seriously consider acting on that as quickly as they can because we feel that if we fail to pass it,

it is going to generate a spiral of inflation, and instead of having a congressional tax, we will have an inflation tax.

Many experts believe that if we get the tax increase as proposed, that prices will rise in the neighborhood of somewhere around 2.5 percent in 1968, and they will rise by less than that in 1969.

Now I cannot underwrite these experts. That is their best calculation and their best judgment that they send to me.

Without the tax increase, they think we will get a 4 percent to 5 percent increase in 1968—with prospects of even larger increases in 1969.

So what you really have is the possibility of a 1 penny, 1 percent, tax, the congressional route. But, if you don't do it, through higher prices you are likely to face the difference between the 2.5 with the tax and a 5 percent without it, which is more than double—the inflation tax will be more than double what the congressional tax is.

Now, no one would want to trade \$2 for \$1, or nobody would want to say, "I would rather pay a \$2 tax than a \$1 tax." But that is really what we would be doing by our inaction. I think that is something the American people are going to have to give serious thought to.

If we fail to pass it, another thing happens to us. We reduce the flow of funds into these institutions that you supervise. You thus severely hurt the American homebuilder, and you hurt the American home buyer.

When Chairman Martin testified—and as he talked to me—about all he could say about interest rates was that they would be a great deal higher without the tax increase than with it. He is the Chairman of the Federal Reserve Board. His statement should not be forgotten, and you should not forget it.

¹ The Revenue and Expenditure Control Act of 1968 was approved by the President on June 28, 1968 (Public Law 90-364, 82 Stat. 251).

One can hope that with a tax increase, long term interest rates would begin to edge down from present levels. But I want to review with you just what concerns us and what is happening right now to those interest rates.

As a matter of fact, an editorial in *The American Banker* of October 5 said of interests without a tax increase, "The implications for rates are staggering. . . . If the Fed moves farther in the direction of restraint, which it probably will . . . the pressure on rates will get even sharper. . . . The conditions . . . are building up for a financial crisis of heroic proportions. . . . When that happens . . . the high rates now in effect on long-term money will move rapidly back through the maturity spectrum creating all the conditions for a process of disintermediation even more violent than happened last year, when investors took their money out of banks and put it in financial instruments" for paying higher rates of interest and so forth.

I cannot speak positively and with cool authority on just what is going to happen, but I think it is good for us to evaluate together some of these problems that we are going to have to try to face up to together.

Consider for a moment how unjust a tax bill would be which put a 20 percent excise tax on every new house—just think about that—or imposed a surtax only on poor people, or young people, or only on farmers, or only on businessmen.

Yet I think that could be the effect of the credit crunch that comes, unless we have our fiscal program enacted. I think that will be the effect of it.

I think every day the Congress delays in passing the tax measure costs the Government not just \$20 million in revenues—every day that goes by while we wait, it costs us \$20 million more. But that delay is causing

inflated prices and sharply rising interest rates, despite everything the Federal Reserve System, you and I, and the rest can do to keep rates low.

—3-month Treasury bills have risen from a 1967 low of 3.33 percent to 4.52 percent yesterday.

—6-month Treasury bills from 3.71 percent to 5.06 percent.

—12-month Treasury bills from 3.80 percent to 5.15 percent.

—1-year Federal agency paper from 4.35 percent to 5.60 percent.

—AA corporate bonds from 5.22 percent to 6.33 percent.

—New municipal bonds from 3.40 percent to 4.19 percent.

And this is only the beginning of the ride, unless we get the fiscal action taken—including the tax increase.

The people of this country have every right to expect their homebuilding industry to surge ahead with even greater strength in the years ahead—and the builders predict that.

I met with a group this morning from a Midwestern State. They are optimistic about the prospects, provided we don't have one of these situations develop, because of the inaction that we are taking there.

Millions of substandard dwelling units in this country must be replaced. We can see that from the studies we have been making in the cities that have been accentuated by the riots this summer.

New families, whose numbers are rapidly growing, are going to have to have a roof over their heads. I found that out when I had a young daughter who got married not long ago—and another one is going to get married.

Over the next 10 years, we are told, at least 20 million units must be built, if our people are to be decently housed.

If we are going to meet these challenges—

and if we are going to keep our economy healthy and vibrant—we all have to get our shoulders to the wheel. It is a big job for all of us.

I think you can serve this purpose by working to strengthen the vital institutions that you supervise. I think you ought to carefully review this legislation you have pending in the House with the members of your Board and with the people in the industry, and you ought to try to get action taken this session, because it is long overdue, in my judgment.

After the wreck, it is too late to come along and correct things.

We ought to take these needed steps now and face up to them, even if they are unpleasant. We are going to try to work with the Congress, with the leadership, the Speaker of the House of Representatives, the Chairman of the Appropriations Committee, the Ways and Means Committee, and the Senate committees to ask them to take action on the 10 appropriation bills and on the tax measure which is so essential to the sustained health of our economy.

Now, the House cut out \$2 billion worth of participations that would reduce our deficit \$2 billion. We hope that we can get those restored. The Senate has restored them. That would take \$2 billion off of our deficit.

There were plans to pass a billion dollar extra pay increase over what we recommended. Now the bill they reported is only \$63 million in excess of it.

You always hear about these economy moves, about savings and about what the Congress wants to do on savings. You don't hear about these increases that are effected in there.

They have a bill increased. It was a billion dollars, but it is now \$63 million.

If we can save that potential billion dollars there, that is \$3 billion that we could move

from our \$29 billion deficit down.

Then we would hope that if we could get approximately \$6 billion or \$7 billion in taxes that would amount to a total of \$10 billion. And then if we could restrain, impound, and withhold expenditures approximately the same amount, including the pay and the participating, with other impounding we could do, we would hope we would withhold in restraints about as much as we could have in the tax bill.

In effect, if we had a \$29 billion deficit, as estimated here, including participations and pay, we would borrow \$15 billion, which would be 50 percent roughly—and the other over here that would be half of it—the other over here would be divided between the restraints and budget adjustments such as the pay, one, and the participating, two, and the others, three, or four, would be impounding reductions and then \$7 billion—about the equal amount in the tax bill.

So we could split—not have that whole load go on the market. We could have half of it to be a restraint. We think with that, we could keep our inflations down—our increases down—to 2½ percent or 3 percent, instead of having them go up 4 percent, or 5 percent, or whatever you estimated.

Now, that is what we are working for.

This sounds like a crisis, a problem, and a serious economic situation. We put these things out on the table and we face up to them.

I know it is not a popular thing for a President to do—to ask anyone for a penny out of a dollar to pay for a war that is not popular either.

If I were concerned only with my own popularity or my own poll, that wouldn't be the way I would go about it—to suggest higher taxes or more wars. But you have to do what is responsible and you have to do what is right, if you sit in this place.

We believe, on the best information we can get from every source, that as unpleasant as this is that both of these things must be faced up to.

If we don't, we will have to meet them further down the road, when they will be even more unpleasant.

So I would summarize by saying that we are very, very proud of our economic system in this country, our free enterprise system. We think that it is primarily responsible for our leadership in the world and primarily responsible for our strength. And we want to keep it that way.

We are grateful for what our forefathers have handed down to us. We want to perpetuate it and we want to improve it, if we can. We believe that each generation does improve it.

We have much to be thankful for. If you will take the standard of living that you had as a boy, or your father had as a boy, or your grandfather had as a boy, and compare it with yours, you see the progress that has been made, without bragging about any particular administration that has occurred over our national life.

We have a great deal to be thankful for. The last 3 months we have hired a million and a half people on new jobs. That is something we are grateful for.

We have a record-breaking gross national product. We have the highest personal income, highest wages, highest profits, higher than we even thought of a few years ago.

We are grateful for all of that. But if we are to preserve it and to perpetuate it, we have to take these necessary steps.

When you see a little fever developing, you don't want to wait until it gets to 105 before you take the necessary medicine.

We think the necessary medicine here is a combination of a moderate fiscal restraint that will permit us to eliminate all waste pos-

sible, save every penny that can be saved without jeopardizing our security or our national interest.

We want the Congress, who has that decision—they control the purse; we can't spend a dime unless they appropriate it; we can't hire a person unless they appropriate it; we can't enter into a contract unless they authorize it—we want them to do it and we will try to cooperate with them in doing it.

It is difficult to see what the whole Congress wants to do, because there are 531 Members. Sometimes you hear one man who says he feels this way, a Senator says this, and a Congressman says this. They don't always say the same thing. They are different.

But we need the collective judgment of the 531 of them. Then we will take that and try to stretch ourselves to approve what they recommend. If we think that we can improve it, as well as approve it, by taking something they have spent, appropriated, and save something out of it, we will sure do that.

We don't want to just spend it because we have it authorized—and we haven't. The last 2 years they have authorized and approved \$3½ billion more than we have by doing it, and we are going to try to do it again.

Now, you are going to hear a lot. They are going to try to get into personalities and have big fights between the Republicans and the Democrats, between the House and the Senate, and between the President and the Chairman.

That always comes. I don't want to agitate them and promote them. I like to prevent them, where I can.

But they develop despite what you can do sometimes.

The next months are going to be trying ones, because, as I say, there are no pickets out here saying, "We want an extra penny put on our tax bill."

I find even some of them come in after-

wards and say, "Well, we ought to have had it last year," but it is always a year behind time.

I am very proud of this Home Loan System we have developed. I am proud of this Home Loan Bank System that John Horne heads, that the members of his Board supervise, that you bank presidents administer, and that the savings and loans participate in.

I think we have a very unusual credit system. Other countries are envious of it and are trying to emulate it—and that is a good sign.

But in all of our prosperity and all of our growth, let's not overlook the things that we need to do, the things we need to correct, and the steps that we need to take, even if it is not the thing we want to do.

I have gotten up a lot of mornings in my life when I didn't want to get out of bed. I have stayed up a lot longer at night sometimes than I wanted to, when I nodded my head a little bit.

I even remember my mother following me to the gate to just go over with me one more time the poem I was supposed to recite or the geometry exam I had to face up to.

We have to face up to these unpleasant things. Let's do it and let's do it reasonably—nonpolitically—being able to justify it from the economics that we know.

If we do, I think that we will all be proud of it and maybe we will have the good fortune to meet back in this Cabinet Room again with the men from Boston, Chicago,

Des Moines, New York, Pittsburgh, Little Rock, Topeka, Greensboro, San Francisco, Cincinnati, Indianapolis, and Spokane.

Maybe the next time we have a conference the President can present to the presidents of this Home Loan Bank System a citation as attractive as this in gratitude and appreciation for what you have done.

MEMBER OF THE AUDIENCE. This group is all with you, Mr. President.

THE PRESIDENT. Thank you very much.

NOTE: The President spoke at 12:20 p.m. in the Cabinet Room at the White House.

Prior to his remarks, he was presented with the following citation by the Federal Home Loan Bank Presidents:

CONFERENCE OF FEDERAL HOME LOAN BANK PRESIDENTS CITATION TO LYNDON B. JOHNSON, PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES

The Conference of Federal Home Loan Bank Presidents on the Thirty-Fifth anniversary of the establishment of the Federal Home Loan Bank System expresses its appreciation to Lyndon B. Johnson, President of the United States, for his continuing encouragement of thrift and home ownership, for his sustained interest in the Bank System, and for his positive and cooperative actions which have permitted the continuing development of the System.

Adopted this sixth day of October, Nineteen Hundred and Sixty-Seven in the City of Washington by the Presidents in Conference Assembled.

Joseph T. Benedict, Boston
Bryce Curry, New York
R. J. Strecker, Pittsburgh
John A. Fogarty, Greensboro
Albert C. Crew, Cincinnati
Goehler E. Ohmart, Indianapolis
John E. Stipp, Chicago
J. M. Martin, Des Moines
E. M. Oakes, Little Rock
James W. McBride, Topeka
L. E. Woodford, San Francisco
John M. Kleeb, Spokane

421 Remarks at a "Salute to the President" Democratic Party Dinner in Washington. October 7, 1967

Mr. Vice President, Mrs. Humphrey, distinguished Governors and outstanding Mayors of the Nation, Members of the Cabinet,

Members of the Congress, and my beloved friends:

Thank you so much.

This is a very enjoyable evening. And it is very thoughtful, to say nothing about how generous it is of you to bring us all together for this most pleasant evening.

You know I have been watching the polls pretty closely here of late. And as you might imagine, I like some of them quite a lot more than I like others. The ones I like best are those that like me best.

But in this era in which we are living, I wasn't too sure of their credibility—so the other day I just went out and had a poll of my own made.

You may be interested. The question went this way:

"If President Johnson were to run against the following nationally known Republican leaders, who would you vote for?"

The first pairing showed:

Lyndon B. Johnson—73 percent.

William E. Miller—27 percent.

Then we added another picture that would involve the entire ticket. The second pairing dealt with the ticket of both President and Vice President. Once again I am happy to report that I think we did very well under the circumstances.

Lyndon Johnson and Hubert H. Humphrey—71 percent.

Harold E. Stassen and Ezra Taft Benson—29 percent.

I think I should tell you that we circulated our poll among leading editors throughout the country—and other experts. The response seemed to be very good. One telegram I remember came in from a very important national magazine. It said:

"Congratulations, Mr. President, on a very fine and well conducted poll."

It was signed, "Editor, Literary Digest."

A President, of course, sees a great many expressions of public opinion. The other day someone handed me this evaluation of the state of the world:

"The earth is degenerating these days. Bribery and corruption abound. Children no longer mind parents. Every man wants to write a book and it is evident that the end of the world is approaching fast."

I wondered who the columnist was. Later I discovered that, whoever he was, he wrote what he had to say on an Assyrian tablet almost 5,000 years ago.

You don't have to look far to see the same kind of thing today—much of it is directed at the man in the kitchen that President Harry Truman talked about.

—Some people think we are spending too much, and some think we are not spending enough.

—Some people think we shouldn't raise taxes, and some think we should have raised them last year.

—Some think that we are not doing enough for the people in need, and some think we have done too much already.

—Some think we should escalate the war in Vietnam, and some think we should get out of there tomorrow.

There is no lack of advice—however contradictory. In the crisis of this hour—as in all others that we have faced since our Nation began—there are plenty of recommendations on how to get out of trouble cheaply and fast.

Most of them in the last analysis really come down to this: Deny your responsibilities.

In world affairs, behave as if you were a small nation with few interests; behave as if the oceans were twice as wide as they really are; behave as if you don't care what happens to people with different tongues or different cultures, or colors of skin—so long as they aren't shooting at your house—just now.

Here at home, behave as if every baby is

born with the same chance to succeed in life—although his crib may lie in the squalid backroom of a slum. Behave as if rats were funny—too funny to fight with Federal help. Behave as if health and education and jobs were somebody else's concern—not yours. Behave as if the farmer is getting as much as he deserves. Behave as if you have no interest in helping local authorities protect their communities from crime and violence. Behave as if runaway inflation is inevitable—above all, never send up a tax bill designed to fight inflation.

I hear and read a good deal of this kind of advice. It is much more subtle than I have described it tonight, more "reasonable." It is the voice not of the dove or the hawk, but of the ostrich.

Be certain of this—in the time that I have been given to lead this country, I shall not follow that kind of advice.

The Democratic Party has never chosen the road of irresponsibility. In the 1960's, America, under Democratic leadership, has faced up to the poverty and discrimination in its midst. It has not yet mastered them. But it has started—started on the road toward mastery—toward healing and educating and training and employing those whom life was passing by.

This party, and the programs it has inspired and legislated and turned into action, has set a standard in the 1960's by which every administration that follows must be judged.

For it was we who said:

- poverty must be abolished,
- a good education must be the birthright of every child,
- our cities must be made fit for a free people,
- the environment must be cleansed and protected for every family,

- our streets must be made safe for law-abiding citizens, and
- basic human rights must be made real for every man and woman among us.

Let them say that we have aroused expectations. So have all of those who have liberated men from dreamless sleep and sullen apathy—and set them on the way to becoming what their Creator intended them to be.

Let them say that we have not accomplished our goals entirely—that there is still ignorance and misery and despair in our cities and in our rural towns. Yes, there is—and there always will be, unless America completes the work we have already begun in these 7 years.

My friends, next year will be a testing time for America.

The question our people are going to have to answer is clear:

—Shall we go on building?

—Or shall we become discouraged with ourselves, impatient that the work is not yet finished? Shall we bury all that we have begun—begun with such hope and promise—and bury it in a shroud of inaction and reaction?

You here tonight have come a long way to give your answer. Every State in the Union is represented in this hall tonight.

You are making it possible for the party that believes in building to take its case to the people—to tell them what we promised to do on that August evening in 1964 at Atlantic City we have done—and that America is a richer and a stronger and a fairer Nation today because Democrats made it so. And we have only begun.

Our party and our country is greater than any of us. It is entitled to the best from all of us.

As for myself, my first and last business is

trying to win and trying to secure the peace. That task will take all that I have—and I shall give it gladly.

So tonight I tell you that I will work as hard as any man can work for his country, and I will do everything in my power to build a record for our Democratic Party that America will enthusiastically embrace 13 months from now.

I regret that I cannot predict, this evening, when the issue that most concerns us will be resolved.

I do know that we are following the road of responsibility in Vietnam, as we are here at home. I know—I know probably as well as any man, save those who are fighting for us out there tonight, at this very hour—that it is a rough road to travel. But the road, I think, does lead to a free Asia—and the road does lead, I think, to a freer and a happier and a more secure United States.

I believe the American people will follow its course—not blithely, not cheerfully—for they all lament the waste of war; but they will follow it with a firm determination, now that we have begun it, to see it through all the way.

A very brave man, reflecting on the years that lay ahead for his country, back in 1960, had this to say:

“Now the age of consolidation is over and once again the age of change and challenge has come upon us.”

The result, John Fitzgerald Kennedy said, is that:

“The next year, the next decade, in all likelihood the next generation, will require more bravery and wisdom on our part than any period in our history. We will be face to face, every day, in every part of our lives and times, with the real issue of our age—the

issue of survival.”

And so we are.

I live with that knowledge.

I live every day with the responsibilities it entails—with those our country bears, because it is the strongest and it is the freest of all nations—and also with those that I bear, because of the office I hold.

If I may, let me speak quite personally to you for a moment.

I have—as you know—spent my entire life in the political arena. I treasure the support of our people. I treasure that support as much, I think, as any man could. And I know, as you must know, that there are many who suggest ways to increase that support—temporarily:

- by softening or renouncing the struggle in Vietnam, or escalating it to the red line of danger,
- by giving in and retreating on the tax proposal,
- by abandoning the fight against discrimination—the fight for the poor—here at home.

Some may say there is short term political gain for me, and for our party, if we could follow this kind of a course.

But what about a year from now? What about 5 years from now? What would choosing that course mean—not just for Lyndon Johnson, and not just for the Democratic Party, but for the glorious United States of America?

It would mean, in my opinion, greatly increasing the chances of a major war—not this year, but in the years immediately ahead.

It would mean imposing a far more onerous tax, a tax of inflation, on all of our people—and the poorest among us—not just this year, but next year.

It would mean dooming our cities to angry strife and squalor—in every year yet to come.

So we do have a choice.

We can take the easy road tonight, denying our responsibilities, hoping that a rise in our polls will compensate for what we ought to have done for our country.

Or we can take the harder road of responsibility. We can do what we believe is right for our children's future, though it may mean a great deal of present pain.

Well, I have made my choice. And I pray that I—and we—will have enough of that bravery, unselfishness, and wisdom that Jack Kennedy said we would need—to see it through, all the way.

Just an additional minute. I won't be long. You have been here too long, I'm sure, already.

This is not in the text, I do want to say it while I have the chance.

This party tonight, this salute, should have been given to the man who really deserves it. The next one that the Democratic Committee gives is going to be for the man who deserves it more than any Vice President who ever served this Nation—Hubert Humphrey.

And to those great Governors of great Democratic States, those outstanding mayors from Chicago, Pittsburgh, Philadelphia, and throughout the country, who have come a long way to be here tonight to give us their support and their inspiration, to those of you who have made sacrifices from your family and your own luxury to come here and make it possible for your country to get the truth message, I want to tell you that we are so grateful.

It gives us such encouragement and strength to know that all of you in this room,

and in the other room, would want to do what you have done.

To the National Committee, the chairman and vice chairman, Mr. Bailey and Mrs. Price, to Mr. Criswell, who has done a remarkable job, I want to say thank you very much.

This is not a group of big men, rich men. This is not a group of little men and poor men. This is not a group from the eastern seaboard or the west coast.

This group comes from every State in the Union—more from New York, Illinois, Ohio, and Pennsylvania, some of the larger States, than from the smaller ones. But every State has sent someone here tonight.

The person who is most responsible for that, and the person who is most responsible for ridding us of all the troubles and heartaches that come from trying to meet leftover bills, is a quiet, silent, humble man from New York named Arthur Krim, who the people who believe in the Democratic Party owe as much to as any man who ever served the Democratic Party.

Thank you very much.

NOTE: The President spoke at 11:09 p.m. in the International Ballroom at the Washington Hilton Hotel. In his opening words he referred to Vice President and Mrs. Hubert H. Humphrey. During his remarks he referred to William E. Miller, Representative from New York 1951–1965 and Republican candidate for Vice President in 1964, Harold E. Stassen, former Governor of Minnesota and candidate for the Republican presidential nomination, Ezra Taft Benson, Secretary of Agriculture during the Eisenhower administration, John M. Bailey, chairman of the Democratic National Committee, Mrs. Margaret Price, vice chairman, John B. Criswell, treasurer, and Arthur B. Krim, finance chairman.

The dinner was sponsored by the Citizens for Johnson and Humphrey and the President's Club, in conjunction with the Democratic National Committee.

422 Statement by the President on the Death of Clement Attlee.
October 8, 1967

I HAVE learned with deep sorrow of the death of Lord Attlee, one of the great leaders of the United Kingdom. His passing is a loss not only to his own countrymen, but to all men moved by democratic ideals and the spirit of freedom.

In a career of great distinction he devoted his life to his country's service. As Deputy Prime Minister in the wartime national government he powerfully contributed to the winning of the war. Afterwards, as Prime Minister of the postwar government, he made memorable contributions to the difficult task of reconstruction. When new perils required

not only rebuilding, but rearming as well, he did not flinch at the prospect or at the sacrifices entailed. He was one of the pillars of the Western alliance.

Lord Attlee was a strong defender and champion of democracy and freedom. As a political leader and a creative humanitarian, he earned the admiration and respect of the entire world.

We join in paying homage to a British statesman who was also a warm and valued friend of the United States. To his family, and to the British people, we extend our sympathy and condolences.

423 Remarks to Delegates to the International Conference on the
 World Crisis in Education, Williamsburg, Virginia.
October 8, 1967

Dr. Perkins, Dr. Gardner, most distinguished ladies and gentlemen:

I know that all of you share with me the feeling that we are all deeply in the debt of Dr. Perkins for his leadership and this memorable Conference which you have launched here. I think in the years to come it will be remembered as one of our most necessary and desirable movements of this period.

It was in this town almost two centuries ago that a revolution began which swept around the world. And it was here that Thomas Jefferson submitted to the Virginia Legislature a "plan for the diffusion of knowledge."

The men who founded this country were very passionate believers in the revolutionary power of ideas.

They knew that when a people commit themselves to learning, a revolution begins which will never stop.

Now, here once again, the winds of change seem to be blowing. And once again, we have come here together to consider plans for spreading knowledge.

I am no historian. And certainly I am no prophet.

But for a good many years I have been an observer and a participant in some of the affairs of the world. I have watched man at work; I have seen his creative power—and I have seen his awesome talent for destruction.

In this century, during my lifetime, man has spent literally trillions of dollars on the machinery of death and war. The cost of World War II alone has been estimated at \$1 trillion 154 billion—taking no account whatever of any property damage.

In those years, nearly 100 million people have died in the maiming and disease and starvation which came with war.

Yes, we can take no pride in the fact that

we have fought each other like animals. And that is really an insult to the animals who live together in more harmony than human beings seem to be able to do.

There are other facts that trouble me, too, tonight.

In the world in which we live today, 4 adults in 10 cannot read and write. That is one of the reasons you are here.

There are whole regions in this world in which we live where 8 out of 10 people are illiterate.

Even now, most people end their lives unable to write "cat" or "dog."

These are most disturbing facts in the 20th century, in this the richest age that man has ever known.

They are facts which I think cry out "Shame on the world, and shame on its leaders."

A sarcastic writer once gave this definition of history: "the account, mostly false, of events, mostly unimportant, which were brought about by rulers, mostly knaves."

Naturally, I do not agree with all of that statement.

If future historians, as I said the other day, should seek a name for this period in America, I hope that they will give consideration to calling it the Age of Education.

If our children's children want to measure what we tried to achieve, I hope they will remember one thing:

The American Government in only 3 years multiplied its commitment to education and to health four times over. Congress passed more laws and committed more funds to education and health in the last 3 years than in all previous history.

The Federal commitment for education and training alone has risen from \$4 billion 700 million in the United States in 1964 to \$12 billion 300 million in the United States in 1967.

We plan to emulate this commitment in the American program to help others fight these age-old enemies of ignorance and disease.

In 1966, about one-third of our entire economic aid program was directed toward agriculture, health, and education. This amounted to more than \$800 million in 1 year.

This year our budget calls for \$1 billion 300 million for these three objectives. That is about half of the entire United States aid program for agriculture, for health, and for education.

We may be wrong, but as a former school-teacher of a small rural school, I have had the feeling that if we could help the people of the world to maintain a good, sound body, and if we could provide them with appropriate, proper education, with a good mind and a good body, they could build their own steel mills.

We have been trying to concentrate our energies in that direction—in the direction of educating the mind, improving the body, and providing food for their sustenance.

When other forms of United States assistance are added to America's program for foreign aid to agriculture, education, and health, namely, our food program, that exceeds some \$3 billion this year. But when it comes to education, every nation—including this one, I think—is still very much a developing country.

We have so much to learn from others. That is one of the primary reasons you are here—to help us assort what there is to do and to make an agenda for it. We firmly believe that the knowledge of our citizens is one treasure which grows only when that treasure is shared. So we must find ways to extend the treasure to lands where learning is still the luxury of the few.

One lesson of our experience in economic

and social development is quite clear: Education is the greatest single bottleneck. Development means that men and women can put to use in their own societies, in their own lives, in their own time, what modern science and technology can provide to help them. But that requires education.

At the level of basic education the truth of the matter is that we may be falling far behind. It takes so long these days to train a teacher, and yet it is so relatively easy to produce a student that we are not even holding our own in basic literacy.

At higher levels of education we are making progress. This year there will be 1 million young American boys and girls in the colleges of this country who will be there because of the legislation that we have passed providing for scholarships, grants, and loans during the last few years.

But we have only just begun to exploit fully the possibilities that modern technology opens to us.

I can see no reason in the world why modern technology cannot, for example, permit the best professor in the world to teach students all over the world in a field where the vocabulary and the concepts and the standards are uniform; and this is true of many fields, I think—science, natural and social.

Moreover, our capacity to produce microfilm and to distribute information should make it possible for a young scholar or researcher at any place in the world to have the same basic library facilities that are available in the British Museum, or the Library of Congress, or at one of the great university libraries.

Therefore, I would like to suggest to you

this evening some consideration be given to some of these challenges: How can we use what we already know about educational television to accelerate the pace of basic education for all the children of the world? How can we use modern technology to economize on that most essential and that most needed educational resource: the good teacher?

How can we make the good teacher available to the maximum number of students in the world through television?

How can we make the best scholars and teachers in the world available to all universities—wherever they may be—through satellite communications?

So often have I thought of the wonders that could have been brought to those young, struggling minds with warped bodies that I taught back when I was in that little rural school on the United States-Mexican border if we had had satellite communications, and the best scholars and the best teachers had been able to invade those classrooms and expose those Mexican children to the English language?

How can we use, too, the latest methods of communication and microfilming to provide those who are doing scholarship and research everywhere the best library facilities that are anywhere?

We seem to need more facts. We seem to need to put a program together.

I was quite impressed with a statement in your conference document which said: "If the world's financial systems were forced to function with no better facts than those which educational systems live by, a financial panic would swiftly seize all capitals of the world."

We could have that in the offing anyway.

That is one of the reasons I thought it would be very desirable that we have this conference this year. It gives me a great deal of satisfaction, as Dr. Perkins observed, to know that you have come here upon our invitation, and that you have come here to chart an education strategy for the future.

I should not be presumptuous enough to try to outline that strategy. I content myself with observing a contribution here and there.

If I may suggest another idea, you might consider calling on the United Nations to set a target time for reviewing our goals and planning new progress, and make an international education year for the world.

Don't limit your efforts. Here, and when you leave this place, I hope that you will take these plans and really face up to the tough questions.

The real tough question of all is, how can we persuade the governments of 131 other nations to make it their primary objective to give every boy and girl born in the world—anywhere—all the education he or she can take?

How can we get the world's leaders to convert man's tragic will to destroy into a determination to build?

How can we shape a world in which men employ their minds in projects of peace—instead of sacrificing their all, their bodies, their lives, on a field of battle?

Can we train a young man's eyes to absorb learning—as eagerly as we train his finger to pull a trigger?

No gathering that has ever assembled has a subject that I think is more urgent than yours—more compelling, more necessary,

and more productive.

Here tonight you leaders of educational thought from more than 50 nations—almost half of all the nations of the world—must realize that you are dealing with the dynamite of our times.

Thomas Jefferson said that we should spread the disease of liberty around the world when this Nation was very young. The men of Jefferson's day associated this place where you are meeting tonight with liberty, and also with learning.

Tonight in Williamsburg, I am pleased to observe that you apparently have the same concern. I hope our commitment will be as great as theirs—and I hope that your achievements will be as worthy of remembering.

One more word, if I may be personal.

A President must call upon many persons—some to man the ramparts and to watch the faraway, distant posts; others to lead us in science, medicine, education, and social progress here at home.

I especially want to commend this great educational leader—Dr. Perkins—for having answered every call that his country has made, and having apparently done it quite well here.

Thank you.

NOTE: The President spoke at 8:04 p.m. at the Conference Center in Williamsburg, Va. In his opening words, he referred to Dr. James Perkins, president of Cornell University, and John W. Gardner, Secretary of Health, Education, and Welfare, who served as co-hosts for the Conference. The Conference was attended by approximately 180 educators from more than 50 nations.

Plans for the Conference were announced by the President in his remarks at the East-West Center in Honolulu on October 17, 1966 (see 1966 volume, this series, Book II, Item 533, page 1219).

424 Presidential Unit Citation Awarded to Detachment ALFA, Mine Squadron Eleven, USN. *October 9, 1967*

THE PRESIDENT of the United States takes pleasure in presenting the

PRESIDENTIAL UNIT CITATION
TO
MINE SQUADRON ELEVEN
DETACHMENT ALFA

for service as set forth in the following

CITATION:

For exceptionally meritorious and heroic service from 1 June 1966 to 18 February 1967 while conducting minesweeping operations in the Rung Sat Special Zone of the Republic of Vietnam. During this period, Mine Squadron ELEVEN, Detachment ALFA was responsible for keeping the Long Tau/Saigon shipping channel open to Military Sea Transportation Service and friendly merchant ships delivering large quantities of vital supplies to the Saigon port complex. As a direct result of the efforts of Mine Squadron ELEVEN, Detachment ALFA, only one merchantman was lost to an enemy mine. This superior operational record was achieved despite the fact that U.S. Naval Forces had not previously engaged in Riverine Warfare of this nature. Under the constant threat of mines exploding under their

small craft, and ambushes by Viet Cong insurgents, Detachment ALFA personnel developed new concepts and tactics to carry out their hazardous and extraordinarily difficult mission. Enemy ambushes, launched from well-concealed positions on both river banks, brought units of Detachment ALFA under withering fire from automatic weapons and large-calibre recoilless rifles. Disregarding these perils, personnel of Detachment ALFA on numerous occasions maneuvered their lightly armed and armored craft to within point-blank range of enemy fire to conduct their highly effective minesweeps. After conducting their dangerous minesweeping throughout the day, Detachment ALFA personnel returned to work long and arduous hours at night, performing virtually all maintenance on their craft, including extensive hull repairs and engine replacements. Through supreme dedication and motivation, they maintained the exhausting tempo of daily operations. Their outstanding performance of duty, indomitable courage, and heroism, in the face of a determined enemy campaign to stop river traffic by destroying the United States Minesweeping capability in the Rung Sat Special Zone, were in keeping with the highest traditions of the United States Naval Service.

LYNDON B. JOHNSON

425 Remarks at Ceremony Marking the Entry Into Force of the Outer Space Treaty. *October 10, 1967*

Mr. Secretary of State, Ambassador Dobrynin, Ambassador Dean, Excellencies, distinguished Members of the Cabinet, of the Congress, and of the Supreme Court, ladies and gentlemen:

The age of space began just 10 years ago last Wednesday. I am sure Ambassador Dobrynin does not have to be reminded of that date—nor do any of us.

The world will never forget the intelli-

gence, the determination, and the courage that placed Sputnik into orbit, and launched man's great adventure into space.

That adventure has unfolded, during the past decade, with miraculous speed and scope. Man has probed the moon; he has reached out to other planets in the solar system. And he has done all of this in the spirit of peaceful exploration.

We are here today in the East Room to proclaim the intention of 84 nations that this exploration shall remain peaceful. By adding this treaty to the law of nations, we are forging a permanent disarmament agreement for outer space.

- It outlaws the weapons of mass destruction from man's newest frontier.
- It forbids military bases and fortifications on the moon and other celestial bodies.
- It prohibits the testing of weapons in space.
- It means that when man reaches the moon, he will land in a field of peace—not a new theater of war.

The spirit of international cooperation that has achieved this agreement is a beacon of hope for the future. It is a credit to all peoples. If we had sought for excuses to postpone agreement, we could have found them, I assure you, with the greatest of ease. Instead, we expended our efforts in achieving agreement—and we have succeeded.

The treaty was negotiated in less than 6 short months. For this, I gratefully thank our distinguished Ambassador Arthur Goldberg—who represented our country—and all the wise and constructive statesmen of the other lands who shared in that accomplishment.

The Senate of the United States gave its unanimous consent—and I can assure all of our distinguished friends from abroad that

this is not something that happens here every day.

That unanimous action testifies, I think, to the depth and sincerity of the American people's support for the purposes outlined in this treaty.

This unity is not new. As the Secretary of State remarked, it was 9 years ago, when I was serving in the Senate, I appeared at the request of our very able then President, President Eisenhower, before the General Assembly of the United Nations. And upon that occasion, among other things, I had this to say:

“Until now our strivings toward peace have been heavily burdened by legacies of distrust and fear and ignorance and injury.

“Those legacies do not exist in space. They will not appear there unless we send them on ahead.

“To keep space as man has found it, and to harvest the yield of peace which it promises, we of the United States see one course—and only one—which the nations of earth may intelligently pursue. That is the course of full and complete and immediate cooperation to make the exploration of outer space a joint adventure.”

That was our position 9 years ago. It is our position now. I want to renew, therefore, today, America's offer to cooperate fully with any nation that may wish to join forces in this last—and greatest—journey of human exploration. Space is a frontier that is common to all mankind and it should be explored and conquered by humanity acting in concert.

We have urged cooperation:

- in exploring the planets, or any portion of the solar system,
- in the use of tracking facilities, so that our brave astronauts and cosmonauts may fly with much greater safety,

- in mapping the earth,
- in exchanging bioscientific information, and,
- in international satellite communications.

We again renew these offers today. They are only the beginnings of what should be a long, cooperative endeavor in exploring the heavens together.

Whatever our disagreements here on earth, however long it may take to resolve our conflicts whose roots are buried centuries-deep in history, let us try to agree on this. Let us determine that the great space armadas of the future will go forth on voyages of peace—and will go forth in a spirit, not of national rivalry, but of peaceful cooperation and understanding.

The first decade of the space age has witnessed a kind of contest. We have been engaged in competitive spacemanship. We have accomplished much, but we have also wasted much energy and resources in duplicated or overlapping effort.

The next decade should increasingly become a partnership—not only between the Soviet Union and America, but among all nations under the sun and stars. I have

directed the distinguished Secretary of State and the distinguished Director of NASA to bear this in mind every day in connection with their labors.

The hard business of foreign relations requires a certain optimism. One must be convinced that, in time, men and nations can direct their affairs toward constructive ends.

And it is with this optimism this morning that, here with you, I greet this treaty. I see it as a hopeful sign that mankind is learning, however slowly, that wars are not inevitable; that national rivalry is not a permanent barrier to international understanding; and that a world of hostility and a world of hate need not be the abiding condition of mankind.

Thank you very much.

NOTE: The President spoke at 11:25 a.m. in the East Room at the White House at a ceremony marking the signing of the Protocol of Deposit and the entry into force of the treaty. In his opening words he referred to Dean Rusk, Secretary of State, Anatoly F. Dobrynin, Soviet Ambassador to the United States, and Sir Patrick Dean, British Ambassador to the United States. Later he referred to Arthur J. Goldberg, U.S. Representative to the United Nations.

The text of remarks by Ambassador Dobrynin, Ambassador Dean, and Secretary Rusk is printed in the Weekly Compilation of Presidential Documents (vol. 3, p. 1427).

426 Toasts of the President and General Ankrah, Chairman, National Liberation Council of the Republic of Ghana.

October 10, 1967

General and Mrs. Ankrah, Mr. Secretary of State, Governor Shafer, distinguished Members of the Congress, ladies and gentlemen:

Walt Whitman once described America as "not merely a nation, but a nation teeming with nations."

"The genius of the United States," he said, "is not best or most in its executives or legislatures, nor in its Ambassadors or authors or colleges or churches, nor even in its news-

papers or inventors . . . but always most in the common people."

The "common people" of America include Afro-Americans—whose ancestors came to us in chains.

But bondage did not break their spirit. Discrimination did not dwarf their genius. They overcame. Today, they enrich our national life and the quality of our civilization.

Descendants of slaves, they have taught

the world much that it knows about freedom. In song and poem—as writers, athletes, soldiers, and diplomats—in the arts, the sciences, in commerce—in our Supreme Court, our Congress, our Cabinet—every year the seeds of their new achievements are sown and the harvest of our good fortune grows.

As Afro-Americans expanded the idea of freedom in America, Ghanaians helped to bring freedom to modern Africa.

A decade ago, the Gold Coast became the independent Nation of Ghana. Following her lead, 30 other nations in Africa have since come to independence.

The new independence of Africa has echoed around the world—and because of it men today walk straighter in more than a hundred lands. This is nowhere truer than in this land, where Americans of every race watch the African resurgence with pride and interest.

Freedom brings responsibilities, as well as hopes. General Ankrah and the National Liberation Council have fearlessly faced up to these responsibilities.

They found a people that were weary in spirit, impoverished by tyranny, disillusioned by many broken promises. History demonstrates that this is the moment of truth for a nation's leaders—for it is always tempting to deal with the ruins of one tyranny by imposing another.

But General Ankrah and the National Liberation Council rejected tyranny. Like our own forefathers, they dedicated their lives, their hopes, and their sacred honor to the proposition that the only legitimate government is self-government.

They brought together a representative group of outstanding citizens and asked them to write a democratic constitution. They announced firm plans for free elections. They imposed the austerity measures required to settle their debts and restore their

financial self-respect in the community of trading nations.

These are not easy steps for any nation. Nor are they always popular. But they were right and they were necessary, and General Ankrah is taking them—and retaining the firm support of his people while doing so.

Mr. Chairman, America's interest in Africa is very simple. Our interest is in seeing a community of prosperous and free nations come into being—proud of its unique heritage, and proud to be a partner in world progress. We shall help you wherever we can—and only where you wish.

Ladies and gentlemen, we honor freedom and responsibility in this house today. I ask all of you who have come here from throughout this land to join me in a toast to freedom in Africa, to freedom in Ghana, and to a champion of freedom and his gracious lady, General and Mrs. Joseph Ankrah.

NOTE: The President proposed the toast at 2:30 p.m. at a luncheon in the State Dining Room at the White House. In his opening words he referred to Lt. Gen. Joseph A. Ankrah and Mrs. Ankrah, Secretary of State Dean Rusk, and Governor Raymond P. Shafer of Pennsylvania. As printed this item follows the text released by the White House Press Office.

General Ankrah responded as follows:

Mr. President, Mrs. Johnson, Mr. Secretary of State, Mr. Under Secretary of State, distinguished guests, ladies and gentlemen:

I will be very brief, because whatever I want to say, in fact, has already been said by my host.

Mrs. Ankrah and I, and the rest of my party, have been in your great country for less than a day, but we are already feeling at home. We have found the hospitality of the Government and people of the United States overwhelming and we very much look forward to enjoying our stay in this country.

Mr. President, we are very grateful to you for the pleasant things you have said about us, especially about our country, and for the wonderful arrangements that have been made for our comfort. We also deeply appreciate the help of the Government and people of the United States of America which was given us in our time of need.

The various forms of assistance we have received from this country have been an important element

in the reconstruction of our country's economy. We are making steady progress in our efforts to bring our economy back on its feet once more, and we are encouraged to know that your Government and the people of the United States appreciate this and wish us well.

We hope that our meeting today will open up for us wider and greater horizons for a free collaboration and cooperation in the interest of our two countries. The great ideals of liberty, freedom, and equality on which your great country has been founded are our own guiding principles in our efforts to establish a prosperous, progressive, and democratic society in Ghana. Our country may be small in size and population, but we have great con-

fidence that it nevertheless has tremendous potential for achieving these objectives.

We are currently engaged in actively exploring some of the ways in which we can cooperate with our neighbors in West Africa and in Africa as a whole, to develop the many resources that nature has richly endowed our continent. Here, again, we are encouraged to note that we have had ready and willing support of the Government and people of the United States. With this support—which we already have—and the good will of other friendly nations, we are confident that we shall ultimately succeed in our present endeavors.

Ladies and gentlemen, may I ask you to join me in a toast to the President of the United States of America and to Mrs. Johnson.

427 Statement by the President Upon Signing the Small Business Act Amendments of 1967. *October 11, 1967*

AMERICA itself began as a small business. The first Virginia settlers came to these shores as a joint stock company.

As the Nation grew, so did the shops and factories that gave it commercial life. The earliest American dream—of being one's own boss in a land of unbounded opportunity—has remained a pillar of our economic strength.

Today, 95 percent of the businesses in the United States are small. They employ 4 out of every 10 of our wage earners. They provide a family income for more than 75 million Americans.

Through the Small Business Administration, your Government helps small businesses to grow and prosper. The neighborhood furniture store, the machine shop downtown, the new manufacturing plant in a depressed rural area—these and thousands of other small businesses have been given life through loans generated by the SBA.

Such loans have also helped many disadvantaged citizens take a productive role in our national life. Over 5,000 men and women with the will and talents and energy for business—but blocked by poverty—have

started the road to success with SBA help.

Businesses ravaged by flood or disaster have been restored.

All this has meant better products for the consumer. It has brought jobs and broader opportunities.

The bill I sign today—S. 1862—shows this Nation's faith in the future of small business.

- It continues and expands the many worthwhile programs administered by SBA.

- It allows SBA to make more loans from its own funds, up \$650 million to a new high of \$2.65 billion. No increase in appropriations is involved.

- It extends from 10 to 15 years the repayment time for construction and renovation loans.

- It improves the small business investment companies which provide a vital flow of private capital to small businesses.

- It enlists the services of more retired businessmen, so that their still valuable skills and knowledge can be made available to greater numbers of small concerns.

—It will help to bring more businesses and more jobs into the ghettos, through lease guarantees. This is a vital part of our new program to engage private industry in special job training programs for the hard-core unemployed.

—It launches a comprehensive study of ways to protect the small businessman against criminal acts which endanger his business and often his life.

This bill, in short, strengthens the helping hand America extends to the Nation's small businessmen.

But I must point out that it becomes law at a time when the business community is imperiled by the threat of tight money.

To the businessman, a soaring interest rate is Public Enemy No. 1.

It affects all commerce, but its harshest impact falls on the little man who runs a small business.

He feels it first.

He feels it hardest.

He feels it longest.

The tax surcharge proposal now pending before the Congress can work to remove this threat.

No businessman welcomes a tax increase.

No President enjoys proposing one.

But I believe that most businessmen would rather pay a little more in taxes than expose themselves to the uncertain and uneven effects of tight money and spiraling interest rates.

The tax measure I proposed last August will provide the restraint our economy needs in a fair and equitable way. It will permit businesses large and small to get the credit they need to continue to grow and prosper.

I remind the Congress and the country that the greatest service the Congress can now perform for American business, in my judgment, is to enact that legislation promptly before it is too late.

When that is done, the full potential of the bill I sign today will be unlocked.

Ours is a land where individual enterprise is highly honored. And the bill recognizes that no investment pays greater dividends to the taxpayer than this—to give a man the tools with which he can shape his own success.

NOTE: As enacted, the Small Business Act Amendments of 1967 (S. 1862) is Public Law 90-104 (81 Stat. 268).

The Revenue and Expenditure Control Act of 1968 was approved by the President on June 28, 1968 (Public Law 90-364, 82 Stat. 251).

428 Statement by the President on Taking "Escape Clause" Tariff Actions on Typewriter Ribbon Cloth, Stainless Steel Flatware, Sheet Glass, and Certain Carpets. *October 12, 1967*

YESTERDAY evening I acted on four cases involving imports which have been subject to higher tariffs under the "escape clause" provisions of trade legislation. These tariffs were subject to expiration at midnight last night in the absence of Presidential action. In taking action on these cases, I considered the recommendations of the Tariff Commission, the Department of Commerce, the De-

partment of Labor, the Special Representative for Trade Negotiations, and the other affected Government departments and agencies.

In my view, it is in our self-interest to use our predominant position in world trade to promote the expansion of international trade. I wish to reaffirm the administration's basic support for a program to eliminate any

unnecessary barriers to the freer flow of trade.

I therefore have permitted the "escape clause" tariff on typewriter ribbon cloth and stainless steel flatware to terminate.

However, I have asked the responsible Federal departments to maintain surveillance over these industries to determine if other assistance is appropriate at a later date.

I have signed proclamations extending the existing "escape clause" tariffs on sheet glass and Wilton and velvet carpets until January 1, 1970.

I have reluctantly concluded that a temporary extension of these cases is warranted. The evidence shows that a substantial increase in imports of these products would result in the absence of this action. This would cause severe job dislocation in the domestic industry. Many of the plants are located in regions of large unemployment with limited opportunities for reemployment in other industries. In the opinion of the Departments of Labor and Commerce, the adjustment assistance provisions of the Trade Expansion Act are at this time not an adequate remedy for these dislocations.

I am appointing a task force of representatives of the Departments of Commerce, Labor, the Small Business Administration, and other appropriate agencies to make a comprehensive study of the industries involved and of the small communities in which many of

their plants are located. The mission of the task force will be to inventory the Government assistance programs available to these areas, to search for alternate employment, and to take other steps which will work out long term solutions to the problems created by job dislocation.

I believe that the task force can develop solutions which will enable the industries to make the necessary adjustments to the domestic and world market conditions within the time provided by the extension of this tariff.

The United States, like all trading nations, must be willing to buy the products of other countries if we expect them to buy ours. So we are keenly aware of the importance of expanding trade. At the same time, we—like other nations—maintain a fair and just concern for the well-being of those industries and their employees who suffer unusual hardship from imports.

I believe the disposition of these four cases—including the temporary relief of limited duration granted to two industries—is consistent with these trade objectives and in our Nation's best interests.

NOTE: On October 11, 1967, the President signed Proclamation 3815 "Extension of Increased Duty on Imports of Carpets and Rugs" and Proclamation 3816 "Extension of Remaining Increased Duties on Imports of Sheet Glass" (3 Weekly Comp. Pres. Docs., p. 1433; 32 F.R. 14195, 14197; 3 CFR, 1967 Comp., pp. 89, 90).

429 The President's Telegrams to the Participating Teams on the Final Day of the 1967 World Series. *October 12, 1967*

To the St. Louis Cardinals:

You go to bat today as true champions. If I cannot take sides, I can offer the encouragement of one who knows how it feels to face stiff opposition. May the best team win. You have already won America's pride and

hearts. I will be watching with millions of your admirers and look forward to seeing you.

LYNDON B. JOHNSON

[Red Schoendienst, Manager, St. Louis Cardinals, Fenway Park, Boston, Mass.]

To the Boston Red Sox:

My position imposes neutrality on this fateful day. I will try to restrain my natural sympathy for those who prove the polls wrong. Win or lose, you have won a lasting place in history and our hearts. Good luck

to you all. I will be watching with the rest of America and look forward to seeing you.

LYNDON B. JOHNSON

[Dick Williams, Manager, Boston Red Sox, Fenway Park, Boston, Mass.]

430 Remarks at a Meeting With the President's Committee on Consumer Interests. *October 12, 1967*

WHEN WE upgraded the President's Committee on Consumer Interests to Cabinet and agency-head level last May, we had a specific purpose in mind.

- We wanted it to be an effective voice for the consumer at the highest levels of the administration.
- We wanted it to be our ear for individual consumer complaints.
- We wanted it to cooperate with business and industry to improve practices in the marketplace.
- And we wanted it to play a major innovative role in consumer legislation.

We have legislation before Congress right now that concerns every one of your agencies and departments.

I have recommended 12 major actions to this session of Congress. You know what they are. They cover everything from truth in lending to the safe movement of natural gas by pipelines.

I want you to get behind these bills with every power at your command.

Your job is to help protect the American consumers—to help them find the best and safest products at the most reasonable prices. My job—and Congress—is to help contain inflationary price increases in every way we can.

By keeping a close watch on our economy, we have prevented the cost of the conflict in

Vietnam from overwhelming the marketplace.

From July of 1965 to July of this year, the Consumer Price Index rose 5.7 percent. In the first 2 years of the Korean war, 1950 to 1952, that index rose 11.3 percent. And in the first 2 years of World War II, it rose 19.8 percent.

By maintaining economic stability we have, during the past 6 years, kept our consumer price rise lower than that of any nation of the industrial west.

From the first quarter of 1961 through the second quarter of 1967, our consumer prices rose 11.2 percent. By contrast, during that period:

- prices in the United Kingdom rose 24.9 percent,
- prices in France rose 23.9 percent,
- prices in Italy rose 32.3 percent,
- prices in Germany rose 19.4 percent, and
- prices in Japan rose 41.8 percent.

But if we don't get the tax surcharge we have asked for, we are going to be unable to hold the line. The Consumer Price Index has already started to speed up.

From October of 1966 to May 1967, it rose 1.0 percent. But from May to August 1967, it has already risen 1.1 percent.

The price rise we will have without the surcharge will be felt directly by the consumer. For instance:

- A family of four with an income of \$5,000 (who would pay nothing under the surcharge plan) will pay, we estimate, \$147 a year for inflation.
- A family with an income of \$10,000 will pay \$285 for inflation, or \$174 more than they would pay if the surcharge went into effect.
- And a family making \$20,000 will pay \$316, \$224 more than under the surtax plan.

The rise in prices would not be compensated for, in many cases, by a similar rise in income. Millions of families, especially the aged and those in lower income brackets, live on fixed incomes. As an additional penalty, the real value of whatever savings they may have will be diminished by inflation.

The heaviest burden, as always in inflationary times, would fall on the poor, the old, the farmer, and the small businessman.

The housing industry will probably be the worst hit of our businesses. During the tight money period last year—and under its after-effects this year—we lost over half a mil-

lion housing starts.

This could happen again. Without the tax bill, we could have—in effect—a 20 percent excise tax on houses.

Every day the Congress delays in passing the tax bill, the Federal Government loses \$20 million in revenues. The longer the delay, the more drastic the cutbacks that will be necessary.

We must work together—you, with your responsibility for fairness in the marketplace, and Congress and the Executive, with our responsibility for reducing the tax of inflation.

NOTE: The President spoke at 11:55 a.m. in the Cabinet Room at the White House.

The Committee was established by Executive Order 11136 of January 3, 1964 (29 F.R. 129; 3 CFR, 1964-1965 Comp., p. 172). For the membership of the Committee, see Executive Order 11349 of May 1, 1967, which raised the Committee to Cabinet and agency-head level (3 Weekly Comp. Pres. Docs., p. 688; 32 F.R. 6759; 3 CFR, 1967 Comp., p. 278).

The Revenue and Expenditure Control Act of 1968 was approved by the President on June 28, 1968 (Public Law 90-364, 82 Stat. 251).

As printed above, this item follows the text released by the White House Press Office.

431 Remarks Upon Presenting the Harmon International Aviation Trophies. *October 13, 1967*

Captain Lovell, Lieutenant Colonel Aldrin, Mr. White, most distinguished guests, ladies and gentlemen:

It was 64 years ago next December, that two brothers from Dayton, Ohio went down to Kitty Hawk, North Carolina—and gave wings to the human race.

That first flight lasted 12 seconds and covered only 120 feet. Today, here in the White House Rose Garden, we honor one man for flying three times the speed of sound. We honor two others for spending more than 94 hours in space.

Nothing, I think, better symbolizes the incredible pace of change which challenges this generation. Within one lifetime, we have soared from the sands of Kitty Hawk into space itself.

Aviation is perhaps the most dramatic symbol of change, but it is not unique. Everything in our lives—agriculture, industry, science, education—is changing equally fast.

Many of the problems that we all face today are essentially the result of our failure to anticipate and to prepare for the astounding pace of change.

It often appears, as the Queen said to Alice in Wonderland, that we must run faster and faster just to stay where we are.

Colonel Harmon created this award to honor individual excellence. People often see the amazing developments occurring all around them in terms of things, rather than people. Yet, there is nothing that we have, whether an airplane, or a spaceship or a city park, that did not really begin as some man's dream. And there is no economic system, or science, or code of laws, which can carry us forward on our human adventure in the absence of excellent men.

Many of the previous winners of this award, like those men whom we honor here today, began their careers in the Armed Forces of the United States of America. Our country owes an unpayable debt to the aviators who have worn the uniform of their country. And at this very moment, thousands of them are risking their lives to turn back aggression in Vietnam.

These men, flying mission after mission, flying through every kind of weather, meeting every kind of resistance, are writing new chapters in the annals of freedom—as well as in your profession.

Those of you who have mastered flight—whose bravery in war and peace has inspired your countrymen and the world—belong to a very special breed of human being.

A great philosopher once said:

“There are but few persons, in comparison

with the whole of mankind, whose experiments, if adopted by others, would be likely to be any improvement on established practice. But these few are the salt of the earth; without them, human life would become a stagnant pool. Not only is it they who introduce good things which did not before exist; it is they who keep the life in those which already exist.”

So it gives me great pleasure to participate here, as I have on other occasions, in recognizing the excellence of those with us, and honoring three such men here today.

I am very proud to join with this most distinguished company here on the steps, as well as those in the audience, in recognizing these most unique and unusual achievements.

NOTE: The President spoke at 11:50 a.m. in the Rose Garden at the White House. In his opening words he referred to Capt. James A. Lovell, Jr., USN, Lt. Col. Edwin E. Aldrin, Jr., USAF, and Alvin S. White, Manager of Flight Research and Development for Trans World Airlines.

Captain Lovell and Colonel Aldrin shared in a joint award in recognition of their Gemini space flight in November 1966 which set a new record for time in space of over 425 hours and permitted important experiments in docking of space vehicles and extra-vehicular activity.

Mr. White was awarded the trophy for piloting the XB-70 supersonic aircraft during 1966 in several flights at three times the speed of sound.

The Harmon International Aviation Trophies, named for the late Col. Clifford B. Harmon, pioneer American aviator, are awarded by the Clifford B. Harmon Trust and presented annually to the world's outstanding aviators for exceptional feats of individual piloting skill.

432 Statement by the President Upon Announcing Plans To Employ Medically Trained Veterans in Civilian Health Occupations.

October 16, 1967

WE MUST NOT waste this valuable manpower resource when the need for trained workers in our hospitals, nursing homes, and

other health facilities is so great.

The benefits of this program are twofold: We offer civilian job opportunities or train-

ing to these service men and women and we help to meet the demand for the best in medical care and service.

NOTE: The President's statement was made public as part of a White House release which announced the start of "Project Remed" as part of a broader effort begun in August (see Item 345) to help veterans find civilian employment. The announcement added that the aim of the program—developed in coopera-

tion with State and local agencies by the Department of Health, Education, and Welfare, the Department of Labor, the Department of Defense, and the Veterans Administration—is to draw upon the 60,000 medically trained men and women discharged yearly from the Armed Forces to provide some of the 300,000 additional health workers needed to furnish optimum patient care. Details of the plan's operation are given in the release, the full text of which is printed in the Weekly Compilation of Presidential Documents (vol. 3, p. 1444).

433 Remarks of Welcome at the White House to Prime Minister Lee of Singapore. *October 17, 1967*

Prime Minister and Mrs. Lee, Mr. Secretary of State, General McConnell, ladies and gentlemen:

This morning, America welcomes a patriot, a brilliant political leader, and a statesman of the New Asia.

You come to us, Mr. Prime Minister, from a continent that is free of colonialism, eager to build independent nations, anxious to give all of its people a better life.

You come from a great and fabulous city—now a free nation—that has long been the crossroads of the Orient. Through Singapore, the tide of empire once flowed, and has now ebbed. Singapore has seen war—and now wants peace. Singapore has known bitter poverty—and now builds toward prosperity.

Under your leadership, sir,

- The people of Singapore now enjoy the second highest per capita income in all of Asia.
- The children of Singapore are all assured of virtually free education through high school.
- The residents of Singapore—not only its citizens, but all the people who live there—have free medical care available to them.
- In Singapore, nearly one out of three people now lives in government-built housing, a program without peer in the

entire world. By 1972 half the population will live there at rents that are well within their means.

So Singapore is a very bright example of what can be accomplished not only in Asia, but in Africa and Latin America—wherever men work for a life of freedom and dignity.

Your people have wisely followed the road of regionalism. They are taking part in the cooperative organizations that promise so much for the future of Southeast Asia. You have found—in fruitful cooperation with your neighbors—the key to your nation's progress in the modern world.

I know that you are looking ahead, beyond the Asia of today, to the Asia of the 1970's. You want and deserve to know what will be America's interest in the New Asia.

I trust that your visit here will give you these answers. I think you will find an America that looks beyond the conflict of today, to an Asia that realizes its promise, that lives at peace with itself and with others.

All that we have done, and all that we shall do, is intended to help bring that Asia into being.

Because you have spoken for that New Asia—and even more, because you have so brilliantly labored to achieve it—we are so glad to have you in this country. We welcome you here to our White House this

morning. I look forward eagerly to the conversations we will have with each other in the time ahead. We are so pleased that you could have your lady with you here at this time.

NOTE: The President spoke at 11:45 a.m. on the South Lawn at the White House where Prime Minister Lee Kuan Yew was given a formal welcome with full military honors. In his opening words he referred to Secretary of State Dean Rusk and Gen. John P. McConnell, Chief of Staff, U.S. Air Force. The Prime Minister responded as follows:

Mr. President, Your Excellencies, ladies and gentlemen:

My wife and I thank you for your warm words of welcome.

I am almost embarrassed by the lavish words of praise that you have showered upon my colleagues and me in our modest efforts to build a more just and more equal society in a very difficult corner in Southeast Asia.

I am told, Mr. President, that the North American fall is the most beautiful time of year and so I am looking forward to enjoying the rich hues of the reds, russets, golds, and greens of which I caught glimpses as we were carried by air to Williamsburg yesterday and to Washington this morning.

However, I have been told that perhaps this fall may not be the best fall of the late sixties to have a quiet, relaxed dialogue in order to appreciate your immense and diverse country. But I was also informed, on expert authority, that next year would be too busy a Washington—if, indeed, I could find anyone in it at all ready and able to discuss dispassionately the so many old and undoubtedly the several new problems that are likely to be added to the anxieties of the world between now and then.

I had, therefore, considered the possibility of making this journey in the fall of 1969. But by then discussion on aspects of the few subjects of crucial interest to the world—and in particular to my corner of it—may be somewhat late.

Worse, what can be said, then, by me will get scant attention from a President and an administration starting a new term after having gone through fire and brimstone over issues of life and death for many young Americans—all in the cause of a strange and faraway place called South Vietnam.

So, because the relevance of the stability of this corner of Asia to the peace, security, and the future, not only of South and Southeast Asia, not only of the Pacific community, but, indeed, of many countries far beyond, I am compelled, because of too direct and too immediate an interest to abjure the

choice of a more congenial political season in America—and so it is I am here today, the fall of 1967.

I hope, despite the cooing noises from the dove-cote or the squawks of hawkish impatience, to find enough equanimity to have a dialogue with you and your principal advisers and executives for better or for worse.

We in Singapore must hope that they will be for the better. The decisions of the American people next fall will strengthen the capacity and the already known resolve of their Government to create the peaceful and stable conditions in which alone trade, industry, and construction would be possible.

But experts who do political weather forecasting have put out a spate of predictions. My preference would be for those who forecast not bright and sunny periods, but those who go on to say that patience and prudence, resolution and restraint will see the world through to a better and a more secure future.

We in Singapore, like others, want to build this brave new world of modern science and technology, and the great life that they can provide when these disciplines are applied to industry.

Most other countries in Asia also want this—to find equal excitement and fulfillment in building, instead of destroying.

But some find it difficult to be brave all by themselves, particularly when old friends from Western Europe are leaving and no new and strong patrons are willing to take over. A few have even suggested that they would give up—and immediately—rather than put up a futile fight against big and massive intruders.

In the end, Mr. President, historians will acclaim and applaud the super powers, if after all the harsh trials they demonstrate that not only they, the leaders, but more important, the people, can show that patience and perseverance and prudence can demonstrate that firmness for a fair peace, which can make the world a safer and a better place for all—Asians, Africans, Americans, Europeans.

My temperament makes me want to say these things before the event, when the great heart searching and a baring of the breast have not yet brought a broad consensus. That Americans are powerful, all the world is too painfully aware. The fact that they are brave—or perhaps a better word, courageous—morally no one doubts.

But they do see it in their interests that this courage and this power should be controlled. For in a world full of bears and dragons, that is the best way to ensure that a peaceful future is not unduly threatened.

Do enough Americans believe that their progeny will inherit this brave new world that they have built, unless they make the effort now?

That, Mr. President, is what I have come to find out. I hope I will leave reassured of the future of mankind; of their progress to a better life in a better world.

We in Singapore, like others, want to build this brave new world of modern science and technology

and have the great life they can provide, when these disciplines are applied.

I hope we will not be disappointed in finding American generosity and charity equal to the challenge of a more just and equal world.

Thank you, Mr. President.

434 The President's Toast at a Dinner Honoring Prime Minister Lee. October 17, 1967

Prime Minister and Mrs. Lee, Mr. Secretary of State, Mr. Secretary of Defense, distinguished guests, ladies and gentlemen:

Our guest this evening represents a very small nation—whose influence in the world belies its size.

He represents a new nation whose people are endowed with 4,000 years of Chinese civilization.

He is, as you observe, a young man. But he has already earned a formidable reputation as a lawyer, thinker, legislator, and party leader; as the architect of his nation's future; as a spokesman for his new generation in a New Asia.

He also has earned another reputation. He presently is rated as the best golfer among all the prime ministers and presidents of the world. It takes nothing from his skill if I add—by way of personal testimony—that the competition in that league leaves something to be desired.

In short, Prime Minister Lee is what Asian philosophy would call a "superior man"—a man who is not confined to an ivory tower—who combines thought and action in a full and devoted life of public service.

Confucius himself set that pattern. He was once asked to define wisdom, and he answered, "It is to attend to the welfare of the people."

Our guest has attended to his people's welfare. It was not easy. In so doing, he fought the people's battles for 12 long, hard years and brought them the only victories worth

taking from any battlefield.

—So Singapore tonight enjoys the second highest living standard in all of Asia.

—A new housing unit is built every 45 minutes.

—An ambitious welfare program embraces new schools and community centers.

—A pioneering educational television system has just been launched. From that we expect to learn much ourselves.

—The different races of Singapore have found brotherhood and nationhood in shared achievement. They are proud of themselves and most of all, they are proud of their government. And they should be.

—Prime Minister Lee's administration is one of the most honest, efficient, and successful in Asia. What Singapore has accomplished can be done, we think, by almost any nation on earth—that is, if its people have the will to achieve what their dreams demand.

Singapore has yet to realize all of its dreams. But it has put nightmare behind. Our guest summed it up just a few weeks ago in a speech he made in England when he said:

"We are one of a few places in Asia where there are no beggars, where nobody, old or young, dies of neglect or starvation. They are modest achievements but nonetheless precious to us."

Then the Prime Minister looked a little

farther into "the different world of the 1970's" as he expressed it. He voiced the central hope—and I quote from him now—that "American patience and prudence in Vietnam could leave us in peace, to improve on the small advances we have made to civilized living in a turbulent part of the world."

This morning, here on the White House lawn, after we had greeted him, he repeated his convictions and his hopes. He said—and I quote—that only "patience and prudence, resolution and restraint will see the world through." And he put a question then to our people in America. He said: "Do enough Americans believe that their progeny will inherit this brave new world that they have built, unless they make the effort now?"

Well, that is the vital question that concerns us. Part of the answer is being given tonight by our brave men in Vietnam. Another part lies in the hearts of our people here at home.

I believe I know the answer and I think I can tell you that answer is "yes." America has the resolution, I believe, and it has the restraint to see this struggle through in Vietnam.

I cannot put it more clearly or with more confidence. Mr. Prime Minister, you have a phrase in your part of the world that puts

our determination very well, I think. You call it "riding the tiger." You rode the tiger. We shall.

Mr. Prime Minister, we are friends of today's free Asia. We so much want it to flourish. We offer it the hand of friendship, of partnership, and—we hope—of peace.

We are fighting tonight to secure the future of the new Asia. For its future—free, independent, increasingly prosperous—will play a very large part in our own future. Our interest and our friendship in Asia will remain long after the guns have fallen silent. That is our promise to you; that is our promise to ourselves. No aggressor is ever going to break it. No nearsighted critic can obscure it.

We rest our welcome to you tonight, sir, on that pledge of our enduring purpose and responsibility.

So to those few guests here this evening, I ask you to join me in a toast to a bright symbol of the common future his Excellency, the Prime Minister of the Republic of Singapore and his gracious wife.

NOTE: The President proposed the toast at 10:04 p.m. at a dinner in the Family Dining Room at the White House. In his opening words he referred to Prime Minister and Mrs. Lee Kuan Yew of Singapore, Secretary of State Dean Rusk, and Secretary of Defense Robert S. McNamara.

As printed above, this item follows the text released by the White House Press Office.

435 Joint Statement Following Discussions With Prime Minister Lee of Singapore. *October 18, 1967*

THE PRIME MINISTER and the President had a frank and useful exchange of views covering a broad range of topics of common interest. Their talks reflected the cordial relations existing between Singapore and the United States and were directed toward enhancing mutual understanding.

The President and the Prime Minister

agreed that the security and welfare of the entire Pacific community is dependent upon the countries of Southeast Asia being able to maintain their independence and accelerate their economic growth in an atmosphere of self-reliance and mutual cooperation. The President expressed the hope that Singapore would continue to make her contribution

to the growth of regional cooperation in Southeast Asia. The Prime Minister expressed Singapore's readiness to play her part in constructing a regional framework for common prosperity and mutual security.

The President and the Prime Minister agreed that mutual respect, noninterference and equality among all nations are essential principles underlying the creation of a stable, peaceful, international order. The leaders agreed that every nation should have the right to select its own political, economic and social system and its own way of life free from any outside interference or pressure.

The two leaders reviewed recent developments in East Asia in the context of the universal desire of all peoples of the world to achieve a peace that respects liberty, human dignity and provides more equal opportunities for all peoples to achieve better and higher standards of life which the applica-

tion of science and technology to industry has now made possible.

The President expressed his deep and abiding interest in the achievement of peace and stability in East Asia which would permit the countries of the area to devote all of their energies to economic development and the enrichment of the lives of their peoples.

The Prime Minister expressed his hope that a settlement would be reached in Vietnam which would enhance the prospects of peace and security for the rest of South and Southeast Asia.

The two leaders expressed the support of their countries for the United Nations and stressed the need for it to develop into an increasingly effective instrument of international peace and security, and for the promotion of friendly relations and cooperation among nations and peoples for their economic and social advancement.

436 Joint Statement on Economic Cooperation Between Puerto Rico and the Dominican Republic. *October 18, 1967*

PRESIDENT Lyndon B. Johnson, Dr. Joaquin Balaguer, President of the Dominican Republic, and Dr. Roberto Sánchez-Vilella, Governor of the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, announced today that a Joint Dominican Republic-Puerto Rican Economic Commission would be appointed and would meet during the first week of November in Santo Domingo to begin technical planning to develop closer and mutually beneficial economic relations between their peoples.

The Commission, whose functions have been under study for several months, will operate through the auspices of the Technical Secretariat of the Presidency of the Dominican Republic and the Cooperacion Desarrollo Economico del Caribe in Puerto Rico, and

will be composed of representatives from those government agencies directly concerned with the development and coordination of economic affairs.

In making the announcement, they expressed the conviction that strengthened economic cooperation between the governments and peoples would contribute not only to the economic and social development of the Dominican Republic and Puerto Rico but also to the progress of the entire Caribbean area, within the framework of the ideals envisioned by the Alliance for Progress. The work of the Joint Commission will in no way replace or duplicate the activities in which various international organizations or agencies of the United States Government are

now carrying on in the Dominican Republic. The President of the United States, the President of the Dominican Republic, and the Governor of the Commonwealth of

Puerto Rico expressed their desire that those organizations and agencies would cooperate and assist, as appropriate, in this joint effort.

437 Statement by the President on the Death of Shigeru Yoshida. *October 20, 1967*

THE PRESIDENT was deeply saddened to learn of the death of former Japanese Prime Minister Shigeru Yoshida. He is sending a message of condolence to Japanese Prime Minister Eisaku Sato and to the Yoshida family.

Mr. Yoshida was one of those extraordinarily few world statesmen who, during the troubled and critical period immediately

following the Second World War, set the destiny of his country on the path of peace and democracy. As an esteemed elder statesman in his later years, his counsel continued to be highly valued. The United States will be indebted to him for his singular contribution to Japanese-American friendship and partnership. His loss will be deeply mourned.

438 Toasts of the President and Prime Minister Souvanna Phouma of Laos. *October 20, 1967*

Mr. Prime Minister and distinguished guests:

We are honored today with the presence of a very distinguished statesman.

His Excellency and I last met about a year ago in New York. We had a very profitable conversation then, as we have had again today. In the months between our two meetings, much has happened in the world—not least of which were the national elections held in Laos last January.

The fact that the people of your brave land were able and determined to hold free elections, while deeply engaged in defending themselves against armed violence, Your Highness, was a very inspiring demonstration of their resolve to control their own destiny.

Many of us here in the United States were equally moved by your eloquent remarks last week to the United Nations, particularly

where you pointed out that “for more than 20 years (the Laotian people) have been the victim of subversions, violations, armed aggression.”

In reading those remarks, I was moved by the thought of how really similar are the desires of all people. We all want enough to eat, enough to wear, opportunity for our children, and the opportunity to work in peace and freedom.

The great tragedy of the first two-thirds of our century is that though we have the power and the resources to realize all of these dreams, the violence and the bloodshed have continued. But I am not—any more than you, Your Highness—a pessimist. I believe that the time will come—and sooner perhaps than many believe—when men will turn from the works of violence and take up the ways of peace.

We are looking forward to our visits dur-

ing the day and again tomorrow morning. I shall ask the Vice President and some other friends to come in. We will have a little informal lunch tomorrow together.

But let me assure you again, Your Highness, that we in America know our responsibilities to the great republic of mankind, and we certainly intend to be faithful to that trust.

I should like those of you with us to join me in a toast to His Majesty, the King of Laos.

NOTE: The President proposed the toast at 2:04 p.m. at a luncheon in the Family Dining Room at the White House. As printed this item follows the text released by the White House Press Office.

Prime Minister Souvanna Phouma responded as follows:

Mr. President:

I am deeply touched by your words, not only for myself but for my country.

There is no merit to my actions, because for a very long time now I have sacrificed myself for my country and for the well-being of my fellow citizens.

In spite of the war, we have wanted to keep a democratic regime. And thus it was that when the government asked His Majesty to dissolve the National Assembly, we decided that, in spite of the war, we would afford the luxury of new general elections.

We are happy to see this new Assembly showing great understanding of the action we have undertaken.

This year the budget was voted unanimously as were also the few changes in the Cabinet of the Government.

I do want to bring into our Government those young men who have come back from foreign

countries with degrees and training, because we need to train replacement cadres.

I am happy to be able to include in our Government some of these dynamic young men who have come back to the country and who render sterling service to our country. We are thankful to these youths, because in coming years they will bring to us the dynamic force which will help us bring about the development of the economy and the success of the social action we have undertaken.

Earlier, Mr. President, you spoke of people in control of their own destiny. We certainly agree. Whatever may be said by some other powers who call us lackeys of the United States, I can say proudly that we shall never accept anything that is against our interests.

But we have common interests. We are grateful that you came, as you came to France in 1917-18, as you came to Europe in 1944.

We are grateful that you came to Indochina to help us survive. If it weren't for your presence, Laos and, indeed, all of Southeast Asia, would fall under Communist influence.

As I was saying a few moments ago, if tomorrow South Vietnam became Communist, all that would be left for us to do would be simply to pack up and go.

But in spite of the war, we must remain human and seek peace together. It is to avoid war in Laos that I have been following my policy of neutrality now for almost 10 years and I am happy to see that more and more countries today share in this idea.

But with a state of war also having been so close in the Middle East, it is in the interest of all, in view of the scope of nuclear progress of today, that as we continue to make war we build for peace also; as we make war we must continue to build hospitals.

And as I voice this hope that we may one day reach the state of peaceful coexistence advocated now for almost 10 years, I ask you to share with me a toast to the health of the President of the United States.

439 White House Statement Following the President's Meeting With Prime Minister Souvanna Phouma of Laos. *October 20, 1967*

HIS HIGHNESS Prince Souvanna Phouma, Prime Minister of Laos, is paying a 2-day visit to Washington at the invitation of President Johnson. Prime Minister Souvanna Phouma met with President Johnson today. The meeting was followed by a luncheon

given by the President in honor of the Prime Minister.

During their meeting, the Prime Minister briefed the President on the North Vietnamese aggression against Laos that is causing untold misery to the Lao people.

Together they discussed the political and military situation in Southeast Asia and reaffirmed their hopes that conditions of peace can be achieved in the area so that efforts can be concentrated on meeting the needs and the aspirations of the people.

The President reaffirmed the United States Government's respect for and support of the Royal Lao Government's policy of neutrality as provided in the Geneva agreements of 1962.

The Prime Minister expressed his Government's appreciation for this support and for the economic assistance being provided to

his people by the United States.

The discussions were held in an atmosphere of cordiality and of mutual understanding.

Accompanying the Prime Minister on his trip to Washington were his daughter Princess Moune Souvanna Phouma, chef de cabinet of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, and Minister of Finance Sisouk Na Champassak.

During the 2-day visit, the Prime Minister is also meeting with Vice President Humphrey and other leading members of the United States Government.

440 Statement by the President Upon Signing the Military Construction Authorization Act, 1968. *October 21, 1967*

I HAVE signed the Military Construction Authorization Act for fiscal year 1968.

This measure authorizes \$2.3 billion for the construction of such projects as airbases, hospitals, barracks, and naval depots. It will help provide the brick and mortar to modernize our military installations not only in Southeast Asia, but throughout the world.

In signing this bill, however, I must express my concern over three provisions which are inconsistent with the sound management of America's military establishment and raise questions concerning the constitutional separation of powers.

The first provision requires the continued operation of the Naval Academy's dairy farm. It provides that only an act of Congress can ever close that farm down.

Thus the Congress, which has given the Navy Department authority over the world's most powerful fleet, has withdrawn the Department's authority over 380 cows.

The second provision goes far beyond

dairy farms. It freezes the present geographic boundaries of the 11 Naval Districts. It also freezes the location of their headquarters. And it provides that no less than a rear admiral can command each district.

But times change and requirements change. And the American taxpayers, in the interest of efficiency, expect the Government to change too. I believe that this restriction is detrimental to sound management practices. I believe that the Department of Defense should retain the flexibility it needs to organize and manage its internal affairs properly.

The third provision prevents the Department of the Army from closing Fort De-Russy, Hawaii. Again, it singles out one installation and says that only the Congress can order it closed. And again, efficiency and good management within the Defense Establishment are threatened by such inflexibility.

Just because a piece of real estate has al-

ways been used for military purposes in the past does not mean that it must be so used forever. Federal property is not the exclusive domain of any department or agency. It be-

longs to all of the people, and it must be used for the benefit of all of the people.

NOTE: As enacted, the Military Construction Authorization Act, 1968 (H.R. 11722) is Public Law 90-110 (81 Stat. 279).

441 Memorandum Following the Peace Demonstrations at the Lincoln Memorial and the Pentagon. *October 23, 1967*

Memorandum for Honorable Robert S. McNamara, Secretary of Defense; Honorable Ramsey Clark, The Attorney General:

I know that all Americans share my pride in the men in uniform and the civilian law enforcement personnel for their outstanding service in the Nation's Capital during the last two days.

Their mission was trying and difficult. They performed it with restraint, firmness and professional skill. Their actions stand in

sharp contrast to the irresponsible acts of violence and lawlessness by many of the demonstrators.

They return to their regular posts of duty with the respect and appreciation of their President and their Nation.

LYNDON B. JOHNSON

NOTE: A peace demonstration assembled at the Lincoln Memorial on Saturday, October 21. A crowd estimated at 30,000 to 35,000 then proceeded to the Pentagon Building where many remained overnight.

442 Remarks Before the International Federation of Commercial, Clerical, and Technical Employees. *October 23, 1967*

President Suffridge, and delegates to the inaugural session of the 15th triennial congress:

It is a very great pleasure for me to welcome you here for your first conference in this hemisphere.

I have been familiar with your work—your good work—for many years.

In 1961, I took one of the most rewarding and exciting trips of my life with your president—Jim Suffridge. Together we visited a number of your countries on a mission for President Kennedy. It was on that journey—with Mr. Suffridge as my guide—that I saw some of the worldwide activities of FIET.

I saw then in other lands what I knew well in my own—working people building better lives for themselves and better futures for their families through their labor organiza-

tions. I saw schools, new housing and health clinics, credit unions and cooperatives which had been created largely with the help of trade unions.

As you meet to study the problems and the promise of tomorrow, I join you as one who shares your vision of the good life. I come as a representative of 200 million people who want very much to see a world

—in which all the guns of war are stilled;

—in which every nation is free to mark its own course;

—in which every man is able to build—through his own effort—fulfillment for himself and opportunity for his children.

We can agree quickly, I think, that this is the goal we all seek—because we are not the first to actually put it into words. In this gen-

eration, many men from many lands have talked hopefully of a stable world of growing promise—because for the first time in man's history it is now realistic to think in global terms about improving man's condition.

The fact that mankind now can rid this planet of ignorance and hunger is one of the most awesome bits of knowledge that we live with.

It is history's cruel paradox that man should finally acquire this ability, after all his years of struggle, just as he also gains the power to destroy his race.

The rest of his story will be told—if it is told at all—in terms of which power he actually employs.

He can use his atomic might to make the deserts of the world bloom—or to incinerate his planet.

We can use our science to develop weapons that dwarf the mind—or to expand men's minds with learning.

We can commit our sons to a new generation of peril—or leave them the foundation stones for a new civilization.

The will to live is the strongest human impulse. It generates a stubborn optimism which runs deep in the human spirit.

An eloquent American writer has given it voice in our time when he said, "I believe that man will not merely endure: he will prevail. He is immortal, not because he alone among creatures has an inexhaustible voice, but because he has a soul, a spirit capable of compassion and sacrifice and endurance."

William Faulkner spoke those words almost two decades ago. It is a measure, I think, of how far we have come that they sounded braver when they were spoken than they do as we meet here today.

The great victories of reason and agreement, which can assure the survival of the human race, still are in front of us.

The ones behind us are modest and small.

But they are victories nonetheless.

We have not yet passed safely through the danger we have created. But we have walked far enough to dare to hope that we will make it.

The fact that war itself has not yet disappeared is a matter of infinite tragedy.

Many thousands of our countrymen are today involved in a bitter conflict in a land far away—because armed invaders try to impose their will on their neighbor.

In every way we can, we search for peace in Vietnam. But we appear to be searching alone. Those who began the war are not willing to sit down and with us explore the ways to end it. They cling stubbornly to the belief that their aggression will be rewarded—by our frustration, by our impatience, or by our unwillingness to stay the course.

It will not be so.

Peace and stability will come to Asia only when the aggressors know that they cannot take another people's land by force.

Our Asian allies fighting beside us believe this.

And so do the leaders and the peoples of those free nations that are standing there in the path of conquest.

But to end the threat of war, we must do even more than keep aggression in check.

As all of you know, most wars are bred in conditions of human misery. Aggressors are boldest always when they can exploit a people's discontent.

This discontent churns in a world where illiteracy cripples two-fifths of the adult population—and where disease still dooms millions of children to an early death.

The experience of the last decade proves that violence erupts most often in the nations which are the poorest.

The great work of our day, therefore, is to change the conditions that breed and en-

courage war—to do something about the old tyrannies of hunger, disease, ignorance, and poverty which still enslave two-thirds of the human race.

That work has well started.

I am very proud of the role that my own country has played in the beginning of this very worthy adventure. A leading public figure of a free Asian country recently said about the United States—and I quote him: “. . . This is perhaps the first time in history that a world power has consciously used its strength and wealth to promote the interests of weak and poor nations.”

So on behalf of our people, I believe that tribute is well deserved. The American people have used their resources in a constructive and a compassionate way—because we have had to learn quickly the lessons which history forced upon us overnight.

Today, history teaches us all a new lesson.

A concept of world order is already quietly emerging which, we believe, offers the world its best chance for constructive change.

It is a new sense of community. It links together states that share a common geography.

There is no word which can adequately describe it and convey the excitement and the hope that it generates. But, for want of a better term, we have all started calling it regionalism.

It is built on an idea which has grown rapidly in the minds of many men. It is simply this—despite the spirit of nationalism, the problems of an area respect no national borders. There is a belief that action can be more effective when it is taken in unison. There is a determination to work together in shaping a common destiny, through economic development.

The logic of this idea first became evident in Europe. The chaos of war had forced the leaders of Western Europe to look with new

insight into the old patterns of rivalry. They reached a significant conclusion. They saw that the more they could travel together, the faster they could move to a prosperous future. Going it alone, perhaps they would never make it. So the European Common Market was a result of this thinking.

In Latin America, economic integration is clearly seen as the key which can unlock the strength dreamed of for centuries.

In Asia the same idea has now begun—for the very first time—to persuade separate nations of their common purpose.

Africa, too, is feeling the stirrings of this regional spirit.

Only in the Middle East do ancient rivalries and frustrations still seem to inhibit the prospects of cooperation. But in our search for new solutions to old challenges, there is hope even here that men will look together at the problems they share.

Nowhere is the road easy, and nowhere has that road yet been fully traveled. But men and nations are today moving ahead together.

In my years of public life, no development in world affairs has given me more encouragement. Because behind the headlines of crisis, a new spirit of progress has been quietly at work.

The United States of America will continue to encourage its development and continue to support its growth.

But the world itself remains man's first community. And his problems still must be met on a global basis—weather control, for example, and the spread of nuclear weapons, and international monetary reform.

And then world trade is another.

It was just 5 years ago—I know you will remember—that the major trading countries began the most ambitious round of trade negotiations that had ever been undertaken. Because these talks were initiated by a great

American President, they took his name, and became known as the Kennedy Round.

This past summer, the Kennedy Round was successfully concluded. It brought tariff reductions greater than any known in our history. It moved the world closer to the healthy trading conditions on which the prosperity of many nations depends.

It was a historic landmark in the efforts of all of us to create a sounder world community.

Preserving the gains won in the Kennedy Round is now essential to the harmony and well-being of all of us.

It will not be easy. Freer trade often causes temporary but painful dislocations. And today, once again, we hear protectionist voices rising out of the past.

But larger interests just must prevail. We must consider our common goals:

- to protect our consumers;
- to promote healthy and competitive industry and agriculture;
- to raise the productivity and wages of our workers.

We have an enormous stake in keeping and extending the benefits of 30 years of constructive trade policy.

And our overall interest lies in working together to establish new conditions for a peaceful and more prosperous world order.

To the developing countries, striving to reach the 20th century industrial world, trade is the lifeline of hope.

The leading nations of the free world are together studying ways to improve the trading position of those emerging nations. In the meantime, the Kennedy Round increases the trading opportunities that are so badly needed.

That increase in strength is not enough to insure their industrial success, it is true. But it is a long step forward.

Yes, as we meet here this morning, the world is moving fast. Developments measured a step at a time may not stir the mind as forcefully as the headlong rush of crisis does.

And through a generation of peril, progress has often moved forward by short steps. Yet those steps now add up to many, many miles.

So, I think, it is good for all of us, when we are burdened by the awareness of how far we must still go, to look back and to reflect on how far we have come.

I am very grateful for this opportunity to try to—in my own humble way—point out some of the things that we have yet to do, and some of the things that we have already done.

Thank you very much.

NOTE: The President spoke at 11:43 a.m. in the Regency Room at the Shoreham Hotel in Washington before delegates to the week-long conference of the International Federation of Commercial, Clerical, and Technical Employees representing 112 affiliates in 62 countries. In his opening words he referred to James A. Suffridge, president of the Federation and of the Retail Clerks International Association.

443 Remarks at the Swearing In of Erwin N. Griswold as Solicitor General of the United States. *October 23, 1967*

Dean Griswold and Mrs. Griswold, Mr. Chief Justice, other members of the Court, Attorney General Clark, ladies and gentlemen:

Today the people of the United States are

a very fortunate client. For today they retain one of the Nation's foremost lawyers.

In Dean Erwin N. Griswold, the people have gained a brilliant advocate of their liberty, and a compassionate champion of their

rights. A lawyer as well as a humanist, Dean Griswold appreciates the importance of law both to man's civilization and to man's spirit.

He comes to this office when the law and its justice are profoundly affecting the daily lives of all of us.

We are living through an era of revolution in human rights, and historic reversal of the old ways of injustice and intolerance. It is occurring in our classrooms, in our shops and our homes, and along our streets and our highways. But the abiding fact is that it is also taking place in the courts, the legislatures, and the voting booths of America. And to America's lasting credit, this is a revolution of law, and within the law.

This weekend, in a courtroom in Meridian, Mississippi, we saw another instance of this continuing revolution. Five years ago, another event in Mississippi—the integration of the university—caused President John F. Kennedy to tell the Nation:

"Americans are free . . . to disagree with the law but not to disobey it. . . . If this country should ever reach the point where any man or group of men by force or threat of force could long defy the commands of our court and our Constitution, then no law would stand free from doubt, no judge would be sure of his writ, and no citizen would be safe from his neighbors."

I am charging the Attorney General and the Department of Justice, again today, to be sure to see that all Americans are guaranteed justice, not only to those who abide by the law, but justice to those who seek to thwart the law.

In every triumph of justice all good people are the victors. The responsibility of seeking and the challenge of winning these triumphs are America's charge to its Solicitor General.

Dean Griswold is not a newcomer to this office. He was a young attorney from Cleveland when he joined the Solicitor General's office back in 1929. He remained 5 years until he was appointed to the Harvard law faculty. His rapid rise to dean of the law school is impressive testimony to the quality of the man—and to the wisdom of the institution.

His vision is broad; his compassion abundant; his dedication great—to the spirit as well as the letter of the law. He has that special quality of tempering scholarly interpretation of the law with charm and good humor.

His humor may be tested in his new office. A former Solicitor General, the late Justice Robert H. Jackson, said he used to make three arguments in every case he pleaded before the Supreme Court:

"First came the one I planned. Second was the one actually presented. The third was the utterly devastating argument that I thought of after going to bed that night."

Dean Griswold, in the days ahead, your clients—the people of America—know you will not have many sleepless nights thinking of what should have been said.

We are all very grateful for your readiness to come here and serve your country in this most important assignment. We all share the pride and the happiness of your gracious wife, Harriet, and your family. We all know that you will add a brilliant chapter to your career, to your office, and to our fortunes.

Thank you very much.

NOTE: The President spoke at 12:20 p.m. in the Cabinet Room at the White House. In his opening words he referred to Dean Erwin N. Griswold and Mrs. Griswold, Chief Justice Earl Warren, who administered the oath of office, and Attorney General Ramsey Clark.

444 Toasts of the President and President Ahidjo of Cameroon.

October 24, 1967

President Ahidjo, Mr. Vice President, Foreign Minister Bindzi, Mr. Justices, Secretary Katzenbach, distinguished ladies and gentlemen:

Our guest today leads a young country, alive with the hope and the promise of youth. Mr. President, we in this country share that hope with you—and we will work to help fulfill that promise.

For we share with you the knowledge of what wonders can flow from the energy, the confidence, and the restlessness of men in a young nation.

The United States and Cameroon also share the knowledge that independence is a beginning, not an end. Independence is not nationhood. It is history's invitation to great leaders to build a nation.

President Ahidjo is such a leader. He understands—as our forefathers understood—that only a united people have the determination to build, the strength to defend, and the resolution to preserve their freedom.

Cameroon became independent only 7 years ago. It was a country divided—by language, culture, tradition, and the long tribal histories which are the heritage of all Africans.

Divided within, it was also threatened by outside forces—who tried to snuff out the small flame of newly won freedom. It took a man of great courage and great vision to see these perils, to surmount them, and to dedicate his life to preventing their return.

Cameroon had such a man. In 7 short years, Mr. President, you have united your people. You have stamped out the forces of division and subversion—and have set your nation firmly on the hard but rewarding road to prosperity.

From tribalism you have built patriotism. From poverty you have built hope. From peril you have built security.

These are your victories, sir, but they do point the way and hold the promise of the New Africa. They predict that the 20th century in Africa will not be recorded in terms of battles or speeches or foreign adventures. History will instead mark the men who, like Thomas Jefferson and President Ahidjo, led their people to the truth—that there is no freedom without unity, and no unity without sacrifice.

It is such men who today give Africa a new role and a new influence in the world. It is they we welcome as partners and friends in a common and exciting purpose.

Yesterday, Mr. President, I described that purpose for quite a different audience. But your presence here today leads me to repeat it—because you give man's purpose real encouragement by your own example.

Man's purpose must be to unite and to seize this hour of hope. For the first time in his history, man can now think and act in global terms to improve the human condition. He can change the conditions that breed war. He can do something about the old tyrannies of hunger, disease, and ignorance that enslave two-thirds of his race.

He can do it because a new sense of community, of constructive world order, is quietly emerging today. We call it regionalism. It is built of man's growing conviction that action is most effective when it is collective action. It recognizes that whatever the passions of nationalism, the problems of a region respect no national borders. It says that mankind has a common destiny, and that determined men may combine to shape

it—through shared experience, joint development, economic integration, and regional cooperation.

So we know, Mr. President, how deeply you share this purpose. We want you to know that we will uphold it with you. All men can be certain that wherever there is freedom—wherever there is human need—wherever America's hand is asked in partnership—we respond.

My distinguished friends, who have come here from various parts of the Nation, I ask you now to join me in a toast to a man whose purpose inspires our own. Let us honor the distinguished President of the Federal Republic of Cameroon.

NOTE: The President proposed the toast at 2:05 p.m. at a luncheon in the State Dining Room at the White House. In his opening words he referred to President El Hadj Ahmadou Ahidjo, Vice President Hubert H. Humphrey, Minister of Foreign Affairs Benoit Bindzi of Cameroon, and Under Secretary of State Nicholas deB. Katzenbach. As printed this item follows the text released by the White House Press Office.

President Ahidjo responded as follows:

Mr. President:

I want to say at the outset how glad I am to be again in these United States, because I recall with very deep-felt emotion the extremely warm welcome that was given to me by the late and lamented President Kennedy and by yourself, sir, on the occasion of my official visit to this country in 1962.

The unforgettable memory of that occasion, together with the very kind and encouraging words that you have said with regard to my country and with regard to my person, bear, very definitely, witness to the extremely friendly feelings that unite our two countries.

Since its independence, Cameroon has had very friendly relations with the United States. And those relations, in spite of the geographical distance and in spite of historical differences, show that our two peoples are determined to know each other better, since they are fully aware, also, of the great need for further and more effective cooperation.

Cooperation today in our world is a basic requirement, because cooperation reflects an awareness on the part of mankind that something has to be done in order to successfully fight against underdevelopment which divides so badly the world in which we live.

I also want to say that cooperation is a very important aspect of the whole problem of peace, because today it is quite correct to say that if one wants peace one has to help to develop one-half of mankind that still lives in ignorance and poverty.

We are particularly gratified ourselves that the United States, because of its position and its resources, is in a position to play a decisive part in that fight against underdevelopment and that in doing that the United States is definitely in favor of both bilateral and multilateral cooperation.

As far as Cameroon is concerned, the attitude of the United States has been very clearly shown in the assistance given to very important projects in our country.

I want to express at this time the gratefulness and the appreciation of our people for the help we have received from your nation.

Ladies and gentlemen, I now propose a toast to the health of President Johnson and to the happiness of the American people.

445 Message to the Congress Transmitting 11th Annual Report on the Trade Agreements Program, 1966. *October 25, 1967*

To the Congress of the United States:

I am pleased to transmit the eleventh annual report on the Trade Agreements Program. This report is required by section 402(a) of the Trade Expansion Act of 1962, covering calendar year 1966.

1966 was another remarkable year for international trade. World trade during the

year rose by 9.5%, bringing great benefits to all the nations of the free world. The United States shared fully in this growth. Our foreign trade set new records, adding to the strength of our economy and to the income and welfare of our people.

The United States played a major role during 1966 in efforts to improve conditions

of world commerce and to stimulate the growth of trade. The drive to conclude the Kennedy Round—the most ambitious multi-lateral attempt to reduce trade barriers ever undertaken—was the most important of these efforts. This negotiation was successfully concluded on June 30, 1967 and will pay dividends for every American and the entire Free World.

We have had two decades of unprecedented growth in world trade which contributed greatly to the economic progress of this

country and of our trading partners. We must maintain this momentum.

LYNDON B. JOHNSON

The White House

October 25, 1967

NOTE: The message was made available by the White House Press Office as part of the report entitled "Eleventh Annual Report of the President of the United States on the Trade Agreements Program, 1966" (processed, 99 pp. plus appendixes). It was not made public in the form of a White House press release.

The report is also printed in House Document 177 (90th Cong., 1st sess.).

446 Remarks Upon Presenting the Medal of Honor to Maj. Howard V. Lee, USMC. October 25, 1967

Secretary Ignatius, General Greene, Members of the Congress, ladies and gentlemen:

As we meet here in the East Room today, it is now early Thursday morning out in Vietnam.

My thoughts go back to October 25, 1 year ago—when I left Manila to go visit with our men in Cam Ranh Bay.

On that day I saw some of America's bravest sons, men like Major Lee and his comrades. I talked with them, we visited with each other, we ate and we laughed together. And never, in all of my life, have I ever been prouder of my country. Never have I been so moved by the courage and the steadfastness of America's sons.

On that day I gave them this pledge before I left Cam Ranh Bay: "We shall never let you down, nor your fighting comrades, nor the 15 million people of South Vietnam, nor the hundreds of millions of Asians who are counting on us to show here—here in Vietnam . . . that aggression can't succeed."

Twice before we have fought in Asia. Twice we have stopped the aggressor and we have achieved peace, and we will achieve peace again in Vietnam. Our men who are in

Vietnam at this hour have no doubt about it. Our allies who fight beside us do not doubt it.

I wish that every American could have a chance to see, in distant Asia, the battlefields of this and other wars: all the remote fields and hills where Americans have died for freedom—in Vietnam, in Korea, in the Philippines.

There has been some furor in this country in the past week or so about the "yellow peril." Well, let me take just a moment to point out the absurdity of this charge.

We fought side by side with Asians at Bataan and Corregidor, in Korea, and now in Vietnam.

We have utterly repudiated the racist nonsense of an earlier era. Indeed, we have made a commitment in Asia because we do believe

—that no men, whatever the pigmentation of their skins, should ever be delivered over to totalitarianism;

—that freedom is not a prize reserved for white Europeans or Americans in our private enclaves of affluence.

Race has no place in our purpose. The American commitment is clear. It was given

clear and eloquent voice by a young American, a fighting man, who wrote to Secretary Rusk from Vietnam and said:

"We are fighting for the freedom of these people, as we once fought for our own. Of these thousands of young Americans over here, we all take pride in fighting for the principles that made our country the greatest on earth. . . .

"Not all young Americans," he said, "in fact, not even a majority of us, sit in college classrooms and see fit to protest that which our government does. Not all young Americans attend LSD parties and park on the grass. . . . Not all young Americans protest a war for freedom. . . .

"When our grandchildren read about Vietnam in history lessons, we shall be proud to tell them that we were a part of that lesson."

The day is coming when Americans of another generation will return to Pleiku, Con Thien, and Cam Lo. They will revere them—as we do Corregidor and Seoul—because for a time, these were the outposts of freedom that were under fire.

One of the heroes of Cam Lo is here with us in the East Room this morning. Men like Major Howard V. Lee have stood ready—throughout American history—to pay whatever price their country asks.

The existence of liberty in America—the liberty that permits any minority of our people to dissent from the policies of the majority—ultimately really depends on the courage and the perseverance of men like Major Lee and his brothers in arms. Their willingness to risk their lives for liberty is what preserves it for their countrymen.

My message for them this morning—for those here and for all those who serve beneath our flag—is the one that I carried to Cam Ranh Bay a year ago. Then I said:

"Make no mistake about it: The American people . . . are proud of you. There are

some who may disagree with what we are doing here, but. . . . We in America depend on you, on the young and on the brave, to stop aggression before it sweeps forward. For then it must be stopped by larger sacrifice and by heavier cost.

"We depend on you. We know that a nation that stops producing brave men soon ceases to be a nation."

That message has not changed. Neither has America's mission in Vietnam changed. Nor will it change until we achieve the peace that we seek and all those young heroes are home with us once again.

Secretary Ignatius will now read Major Lee's citation.

[Text of citation, read by Secretary of the Navy Paul R. Ignatius]

The President of the United States in the name of the Congress takes pleasure in presenting the Medal of Honor to

MAJOR HOWARD V. LEE
UNITED STATES MARINE CORPS

for service as set forth in the following

CITATION:

For conspicuous gallantry and intrepidity at the risk of his life above and beyond the call of duty as Commanding Officer, Company E, Fourth Marines, Third Marine Division near Cam Lo, Republic of Vietnam, on 8 and 9 August 1966. A platoon of Major (then Captain) Lee's company, while on an operation deep in enemy territory, was attacked and surrounded by a large Vietnamese force. Realizing that the unit had suffered numerous casualties, depriving it of effective leadership, and fully aware that the platoon was even then under heavy attack by the enemy, Major Lee took seven men and proceeded by helicopter to reinforce the beleaguered platoon. Major Lee disembarked from

the helicopter with two of his men and, braving withering enemy fire, led them into the perimeter, where he fearlessly moved from position to position, directing and encouraging the overtaxed troops. The enemy then launched a massive attack with the full might of their forces. Although painfully wounded by fragments from an enemy grenade in several areas of his body, including his eye, Major Lee continued undauntedly throughout the night to direct the valiant defense, coordinate supporting fires, and apprise higher headquarters of the plight of the platoon. The next morning he collapsed from his wounds and was forced to relinquish command. However the small band of Marines had held their position and repeatedly fought off many vicious enemy attacks for a

grueling six hours until their evacuation was effected the following morning. Major Lee's actions saved his men from capture, minimized the loss of lives, and dealt the enemy a severe defeat. His indomitable fighting spirit, superb leadership, and great personal valor in the face of tremendous odds, reflect great credit upon himself and are in keeping with the highest traditions of the Marine Corps and the United States Naval Service.

LYNDON B. JOHNSON

NOTE: The President spoke at 1:07 p.m. in the East Room at the White House. In his opening words he referred to Secretary of the Navy Paul R. Ignatius and Gen. Wallace M. Greene, Jr., Commandant of the Marine Corps. Major Lee's wife, Jean, and their three children, of Dumfries, Va., were present at the ceremony.

447 Remarks of Welcome at the White House to President Diaz Ordaz of Mexico. *October 26, 1967*

Mr. President and Mrs. Diaz Ordaz, Mr. Secretary and Mrs. Carrillo Flores, Secretary and Mrs. Rusk, distinguished guests, ladies and gentlemen:

Today we welcome two close neighbors and good friends—President and Señora Diaz Ordaz of Mexico.

We hope to repay, in some small part, the hospitality which Mrs. Johnson and I enjoyed last year in Mexico City. We remember, Mr. President, the warmth and the kindness of the people of Mexico on that occasion. We hope that there may be conveyed to you during your visit to our country the equal warmth and good feeling of the people of the United States toward Mexico.

Mr. President, I should like to quote a few words which you once spoke about your own country. You said:

"Mexico follows an unchanging policy in the field of foreign relations. Mexico desires

for all the peoples of the world that which she desires for herself. She meets cooperation with cooperation, solidarity with solidarity, and responds to a good neighbor as a good neighbor, and to friendship with friendship."

If ever proof was needed that this was indeed Mexico's policy toward her neighbors, we received it less than a month ago in the floods along the Rio Grande. In that disaster, the border between our countries literally ceased to exist for days. Men and women of both nations did whatever was necessary to save lives and to relieve suffering—without regard to nationality.

Another kind of proof lies in the great public works that we are building together along our common frontier—works like the Amistad Dam, which you and I visited together only last December.

We will see it again on Saturday, when

we will visit the Chamizal to celebrate the settlement of a dispute that took us a hundred years to solve—but which has been solved in a spirit of reason and friendship.

Scarcely half a century has passed, Mr. President, since the Mexican people fought and won a major social revolution. In this short time, Mexico has achieved political stability and personal freedom. She has made spectacular gains in industry and commerce. She has brought ever-growing opportunity and prosperity to her people.

The Mexico of today is also a nation of growing influence in the world.

You have taken leadership in the great work of keeping Latin America free from the threat of nuclear weapons.

You have made your resources and your skills freely available to less fortunate nations in the world. At a time when the growing shortage of food has become a grim problem for much of the world, Mexican agriculture has produced a new strain of wheat which will help to revolutionize agriculture in all the developing countries.

Our success as friends and neighbors rests on respect for each other's rights. We regard diversity as a healthy condition within nations, and among neighbors. We approach whatever differences arise in a spirit of compromise and good will. Because the United States and Mexico practice these precepts, our relations today are closer than they have ever been in the history of our two republics.

So I welcome you to Washington, Mr. President, as my own friend—and as a friend of all of the American people. I want you to feel at home in my house, as I do in yours. *Esta en su casa.*

NOTE: The President spoke at 12:25 p.m. on the South Lawn at the White House where President Diaz Ordaz was given a formal welcome with full military honors. In his opening words he referred to President and Mrs. Gustavo Diaz Ordaz, Mexican

Secretary of Foreign Relations and Mrs. Antonio Carrillo Flores, and Secretary of State and Mrs. Dean Rusk. President Diaz Ordaz responded as follows:

Mr. President, Mrs. Johnson, Mr. Secretary of State, Mrs. Rusk:

In the first place, I must express my gratitude for the cordial reception—especially to President and Mrs. Johnson, who have given us the opportunity to visit this beautiful Capital of the United States.

The visit of President and Mrs. Johnson to Mexico in April of last year left a fond memory with us. It gave an opportunity to President and Mrs. Johnson to see and to take notice of the warm reception of the Mexican people.

I express my great satisfaction in stepping on the soil of this great Nation—the first one on this continent to obtain its liberty. And I bring with me the expression of friendship of our people for the United States.

I bring to that great number of people of Mexican descent or of Mexican citizenship who reside in the United States my salutation and hope that they retain in their memory the country of their or their ancestors' origin.

Though far away in distance, we are close to them in affection. We are with them in their joys and their sufferings. We bring to them as a message a reminder of respect due to the laws of the country in which they reside.

Mr. President, you have just reminded us of the suffering of many of our fellow citizens due to the adverse climatic conditions on our border recently. But we must remember that in the midst of their suffering, they always saw the light of solidarity and what this could achieve.

Thank you, Mr. President, for the cooperation that you showed us in this case—I bring you this thanks in the names of the people and the Government of Mexico—cooperation which went as far as sending five helicopters all the way to the State of Guerrero, one of the many States to suffer during the hurricane.

The solution of new and old problems, the construction of public works in common, the response of solidarity in the case of danger have once more shown the state of the relations between our two countries.

I hope that our two countries will continue the mutual action that is so beneficial to both. I hope and wish the best to President and Mrs. Johnson, and to the American Nation.

I am certain that this visit will be very pleasant—as its beginnings have been. I am sure that as a result of this trip, we will have even more firm solidarity between our two countries.

Thank you.

448 Remarks at a Ceremony for the Awarding of Honorary Degrees to President Johnson and President Diaz Ordaz of Mexico.

October 26, 1967

Mr. President, Mr. Chairman, President Diaz Ordaz, Chairman Mahon, and members of the board:

This has been a very rich and satisfying experience for me today to spend with my friend from across the border.

We talked about how we would continue our efforts developed in the laboratory to rid our cattle of the screwworm pest. We talked about how we could profitably utilize peaceful uses of atomic energy and the very great desalting experiment that our technicians are carrying on together. We exchanged views about the improvement of our plantlife and our food supply.

I thanked the distinguished President for leading the world in developing a new strain of wheat that is now being used in underdeveloped nations in many continents because of the vision and the foresight of the people of Mexico.

I think it is quite appropriate that a technological institution like Texas Tech—agricultural, scientific, one interested in the future of all humanity—should confer the doctorate degree on my distinguished friend, President Diaz Ordaz. I should like also to express my sincere appreciation to you for the high honor that you have conferred upon me.

Texas Tech received its first students in the small west Texas town of Lubbock 40 years ago. Four decades have seen rapid change and growth for that school.

As we know, every advance in technology has opened the door to greater advances. One of the most important goals of my administration has been to make certain that our educational institutions are prepared for

what some have called the knowledge crisis. So preparing young people for the world that they will live in is a harder task than ever before.

Two teachers talked about it at some length this afternoon in the Oval Room.

I know if President Diaz Ordaz and I had our wish tonight, certainly high on that priority would be that we would like to see the four persons out of every ten in the world who cannot recognize “cat” or “dog,” or spell or read or write, have the opportunity for all the education that they could take.

President Diaz Ordaz, as you know, spent some of his rather remarkable career in the classroom. I think that Texas Tech does itself a great honor in recognizing that here this evening.

Chairman Mahon is here with us. Education has a good friend in the man who invited us to have this ceremony here this evening. I don’t know that all of you international guests recognize it or not, but George Mahon is Chairman of the House Appropriations Committee.

He is a friend of education. We are spending about \$12 billion a year on education. That is about three times as much as we were spending 3 years ago.

After he invited me to this very unique and unusual procedure of conferring a degree on two Presidents in the Rose Garden of the White House, I considered it very carefully. I recognized the precedents that might be involved. But it occurred to me that maybe Chairman Mahon might become an even better friend of education, if I accepted his invitation. So here we are.

President Diaz Ordaz will recall that at

Punta del Este we agreed to join the efforts of all nations in this hemisphere in advancing science and technology. We know that we must give these liberators of mankind unprecedented encouragement and impetus.

I trust that President Diaz Ordaz will view this degree this evening from Texas Tech as a token of America's very high regard for him and for all of his people—and as a symbol of the willingness of our schools and our universities to join with those of Mexico in a common effort to advance the cause of learning throughout our hemisphere, because there could be no more worthy objective or goal than for us to have a hemispheric goal of defeating the ancient enemies of illiteracy, ignorance, and disease in this hemisphere.

And at Punta del Este one of the most eloquent voices was that of the great President of Mexico.

We believe, as a result of our meeting here for these 3 days together, that we will not only resolve many matters of mutual interest, but that we will undertake some new goals that could truly benefit not only all the people of the hemisphere, but all humankind.

This week I spoke with two prime ministers from Southeast Asia. And oddly enough both of them talked to me about the food supply of the world and the problems that they had. Both of them talked about the great experiment that we had cooperated in with the Philippine Government in making and developing a new strain of rice.

Prime Minister Souvanna Phouma of Laos

told me that in an 800-acre experimental plot where they once grew 1,200 pounds of rice per acre, they are now growing 7,000 pounds of rice. To a starving world, that means a great deal.

As a result of what the people of Mexico have done under the distinguished leadership of the Mexican Government, the co-operation of one of our great benefactors of this country, the Rockefeller Foundation, we now have what is referred to the world over as a Mexican strain of wheat—Mexican wheat.

It produces two and three times as much yield per acre as the old strain.

So, we hope that in the days to come we can have more new rice strains and more new wheat strains, and more efforts in the field of educating our children and healing our sick because those are really the only goals that count. If we can spend trillions on armaments, as we have in this century, a few billions in education might teach us enough to love our fellow man instead of fight him.

So, to the board of directors, the distinguished president of Texas Tech, and all those involved in this invitation, we say thank you very much.

NOTE: The President spoke at 6:15 p.m. in the Rose Garden at the White House where he and President Gustavo Diaz Ordaz of Mexico received honorary degrees of doctor of laws from Texas Technological College. In his opening words the President referred to Dr. Grover Murray, president of the college, Roy Furr, chairman of its board of directors, President Diaz Ordaz, and Representative George H. Mahon of Texas, Chairman of the House Appropriations Committee.

449 Toasts of the President and President Diaz Ordaz.

October 26, 1967

Mr. President and Mrs. Diaz Ordaz, Mr. Secretary and Mrs. Carrillo Flores, Vice President and Mrs. Humphrey, Secretary

and Mrs. Rusk, distinguished guests, ladies and gentlemen:

It has been 8 years since a Mexican Presi-

dent visited here in the White House—too long an interval, by any standard. We have met frequently in other places—at Los Pinos, in ceremonies along the border, at my home in Texas. But the White House is the real home of all Americans. When our friends come here, they come, symbolically, into every American home. And no one could be more welcome in the American home tonight than our neighbor, Mexico.

I should warn you, Mr. President, that there is in our midst a countryman of yours—whose popularity is such, that if he were to run for public office in either country, he might retire both of us to private life. It is our good fortune that Cantinflas prefers to make fun of presidents, rather than run against them. When he does appear on the political scene—as Henry Gonzalez can testify—the effect simply is overwhelming.

With all due respect to Señor Cantinflas and his fellow actors, Mr. President, I think you and I know that there is at least one significant difference between being a president in the movies and actually having the job. As one of our own American comedians, the late Will Rogers, used to say frequently: “Spinning a rope is always a lot more fun when your neck ain’t in it.”

Mr. President, the United States and Mexico are showing the world what good neighbors really can accomplish.

Our common frontier extends almost 2,000 miles. It is without any military defenses. Millions of our citizens cross it each year. We have worked together to harness the waters that define those boundaries—and to relieve the suffering of our people when natural disaster has struck them both. We are partners at home; we are partners also in major undertakings abroad.

In my welcoming statement earlier today, I mentioned, Mr. President, what your great country is doing to help overcome food

deficits in other parts of the world. This is a matter of great interest to the people of the United States. Our own agriculture is helping to meet the immediate needs of starving peoples. But no surplus in any one country can hope to meet the staggering needs of the future. The world can avoid disaster only through development of modern agriculture, and better crops in all countries. And here you and the people of Mexico are leading the way in the world.

Working with the Rockefeller Foundation, you have developed remarkable new strains of wheat which can produce more than twice the crop from the same amount of land. These are already in use in Pakistan and India, and are being tested in Turkey, Iran, and Afghanistan. I understand that in recent years you have concluded the largest international sales of seed wheat to be recorded by any country. You are making a major contribution to solving one of the greatest problems confronting the modern world over the next generation.

As you yourself said, Mr. President:

“All the communities which in our day struggle for higher standards of living may find in the history of Mexico a straight line of conduct, guided by our firm resolve to preserve the right of self-determination.”

Mr. President, we are proud to be the friend and neighbor of such a nation. And we are very proud to have you at our table and in this house tonight—the leader of a proud and independent people, whose kinsmen have made an enormous contribution to our advance in America. May the peace and friendship which unites our nations be a symbol to others of how nations should conduct themselves with each other.

Ladies and gentlemen, to the President and to the people of Mexico.

NOTE: The President proposed the toast at 10:20 p.m. at a dinner in the State Dining Room at the White

House. In his opening words he referred to President and Mrs. Gustavo Diaz Ordaz, Mexican Secretary of Foreign Relations and Mrs. Antonio Carrillo Flores, Vice President and Mrs. Hubert H. Humphrey, and Secretary of State and Mrs. Dean Rusk. Later he referred to Mexican comedian Mario Moreno Reyes (Cantinflas) and Representative Henry B. Gonzalez of Texas. As printed this item follows the text released by the White House Press Office.

President Diaz Ordaz responded as follows:

Mr. President, Mrs. Johnson, ladies and gentlemen:

First of all, I would like to express my gratitude for the cordial words which you have spoken. I also am grateful for your having mentioned a citizen of our country, Mario Moreno, who expresses with his heart the spirit of the country from which we come.

It is a nonviolent manner of expressing a psychologically violent protest against the life led by the poorest of all. But it is through his laughter that he redeems his life of poverty. Mario Moreno represents the typical poor Mexican—poor, but proud.

As you have just mentioned, we are a proud people, proud in the best sense of the world—in the manner in which I intend to explain now.

Mario Moreno was born poor, as were many thousands of Mexicans. Poverty we must recognize represents one advantage: Because the money ends before the end of the month, this permits a poor man to spend several days without spending any money at all.

Proud in the best sense of the word. We have not become vain with the initial successes that have cost us much work—but indeed we are proud of these first steps on a road that we have decided to follow.

I would like to tell you an anecdote. This noon at the luncheon given by Vice President Humphrey, a beautiful and distinguished lady, who shared our table, told us that once she had met a person whose accent she thought she recognized. She asked him, "Are you Mexican?" He answered, "Yes, I am, although I do not deserve to be."

We are proud of our country not because it is large or rich or even beautiful. We are proud of our country simply because it is our country.

You mentioned this morning, and again tonight, Mr. President, one of the successes of which we are proud and satisfied—the development of new strains of wheat in Mexico which have done much to alleviate hunger and increase production in far-off parts of the world. We continue in this task with the aid of two American institutions—the Ford Foundation and the Rockefeller Foundation.

We are proud and satisfied, Mr. President, that we may be able to contribute some small part in solving the food deficit in other parts of the world. Of

course, we are not fully satisfied because we have not managed to eliminate the food deficit in our own country completely. We still have a poor group in our country who have a very low standard of living. We must make every effort to raise that standard of living.

You remind me, Mr. President, of the many pleasant meetings we have had in the past. I had the pleasure of meeting you 3 years ago when you were kind enough to invite me to your home, your ranch in Texas, at a special time. A very important event had taken place in your life, and another one was about to happen.

The first of these events was the election which had taken place in which the people of the United States had elected you to the Presidency for the term that was to initiate at the beginning of January of 1965.

The other event was a very personal one in your life. Within a few days of our visit of Mrs. Diaz Ordaz and myself, you were about to have been married 30 years to that charming lady, Mrs. Claudia Johnson.

We again saw each other in April of last year when you honored us with your presence on the occasion of the unveiling of the statue of Abraham Lincoln which the Government and the people of the United States had given to the Government and people of Mexico, and which now stands in a beautiful park in Mexico City—the statue of the great emancipator of slaves, Abraham Lincoln.

Permit me, Mr. President, in return for the gift received by Mexico City, the statue of Abraham Lincoln, to give to the city of Washington a statue of a great Mexican President, Benito Juárez.

We believe it could be of similar proportions to the statue of Abraham Lincoln and, if the regulations of the city of Washington permit it and you find a place for it, we will be very glad to place here the image of that great Indian who has inspired us for many years and whose thoughts we hope will speak through his presence in this city of Washington.

These two men, who were born relatively close together, have become brothers in the sense that they both share an indomitable spirit. They are both saviors of their countries and they are both similar in their ideals.

One, Honest Abe, gave liberty to the slaves in his country. The other, immaculate Benito Juárez, gave us a second independence by insuring that we not be dominated by forces which came from the outside.

In one of the most difficult moments of our history, the voice of Abraham Lincoln, in the nerve center of this country, here in this Capital, spoke in favor of Benito Juárez, whom he understood and whose fight for Mexico he also understood.

Lincoln and Juárez could speak and understand each other. Let us now let them speak and let us

now understand them. Let us now understand their faith in the rule of law and justice.

Next Saturday, Mr. President, you and I will go to the border where we will see the fruitful conclusion of a petition made by Benito Juárez more than 100 years ago and that today comes to fruitful conclusion. Because although it may take some years or some days or a long time for law to impose itself, law and justice eventually will always impose themselves.

Mr. President, you and Mrs. Johnson have beaten us, so to speak, because you arrived at 30 years of marriage almost 3 years ago, whereas Mrs. Diaz Ordaz and myself were only married 30 years ago 1 month ago.

However, there is one thing in which we were before you. We had a first grandson before you did.

Since we have mentioned the tender responsibility of a grandchild, I would like to say, Mr. President, that though I have come on what, from a protocol

point of view, can be considered an official visit, from an emotional point of view it is an unofficial and friendly visit.

On these terms, I would like to ask you, Mr. President, is it not true that when one has a child one must fight harder to make a better home and a better country, and that when one has a grandchild, one must again strengthen one's own fight toward a better home and a better country?

Mr. President, let us together do our utmost for that which is within our direct scope of responsibility—that is, to bring our own two countries together ever closer, ever friendlier, and with ever more respect for each other.

And now to finish, I would ask all of you to join me in wishing the best for the United States of America, and for President Lyndon Johnson and Mrs. Johnson.

Thank you.

450 Remarks at the Dedication of the Theodore Roosevelt Memorial in Washington. *October 27, 1967*

Secretray Udall, Chief Justice Warren, Mrs. Longworth, members of the Theodore Roosevelt Association, ladies and gentlemen:

At the Republican Convention of 1912 in Chicago, Theodore Roosevelt came out of retirement to make another bid for the Presidency. Some of his detractors passed around handbills reading: "At 3 o'clock Thursday afternoon, Theodore Roosevelt will walk on the waters of Lake Michigan."

Of course, he didn't walk on water. But he did leave a mark upon American life that will endure as long as America has pride in itself, and pride in its purpose. When he left office—with the accomplishments of a generation compressed into a very few years—the world knew all about America's power. More importantly, the world also knew about America's promise.

Roosevelt spoke with force to the problems of his day. He fought the trusts, he fought the selfish interests, he fought those who plundered this land. The Nation changed because of what he said, and because he put

his words into action. He believed that—

"Practical equality of opportunity for all citizens, when we achieve it, will have two great results.

"First, every man will have a fair chance to make of himself, all that in him lies;—to reach the highest point to which capacities . . . can carry him,—and to get for himself and his family substantially what he has earned.

"Second, equality of opportunity means that the commonwealth will get from every citizen the highest service of which he is capable."

There is no better expression of our controlling purpose in America at this hour.

The giants of American history have always spoken beyond their own times, to all generations.

Theodore Roosevelt was such a giant. He challenged our people to build, not just for themselves, but for their children; not just for private gain, but always for the public good.

He spoke in terms of hard contests and noble purposes. He celebrated decency and righteousness. He urged that the responsibilities of citizenship be always manfully met.

These are not the standards of an "earlier and simpler time." They are for all times—for calm and for storm.

I do not know what his response would be to the specific problems of our decade. No man could or should presume to say. But we do know that it would not be the easy answer—if he believed the hard answer was the right one. "Woe to the country," he said, "where a generation arises which . . . shrinks from doing the rough work of the world."

If Theodore Roosevelt had wanted any memorial at all, he would have wanted it here—in this wild little island in the center of a historic river—where his statue is sheltered in the trees. May our people always remember the generous, passionate spirit that is memorialized here. May it inform and strengthen all of us in our hours and our time of our greatest trials.

Thank you, very much.

NOTE: The President spoke at 1:20 p.m. at the site of the memorial on Roosevelt Island in the Potomac River. In his opening words he referred to Stewart L. Udall, Secretary of the Interior, Earl Warren, Chief Justice of the United States, and Mrs. Alice Roosevelt Longworth, daughter of Theodore Roosevelt.

451 Joint Statement Following Discussions With President Diaz Ordaz of Mexico. *October 27, 1967*

AT THE INVITATION of the President of the United States of America and Mrs. Johnson, the President of the United Mexican States, accompanied by Mrs. Diaz Ordaz, is paying a state visit to the United States.

The two Chiefs of State expressed greatest pleasure in having another opportunity to renew their cordial personal relationship and to resume informal talks held during their previous visits and at the Punta del Este meeting of American Presidents in April 1967.

President Diaz Ordaz expressed to President Johnson his sincere thanks for the friendly reception and for the warm welcome of the Congress, government officials, and individuals whom he has met, which he said reflect the traditional friendship between the peoples of the United States and Mexico.

The two Presidents engaged in wide-ranging talks in which they reviewed matters of common interest, as indicated below, and

they expressed satisfaction over the high level of mutual understanding reached during the last few years in relations between the two countries.

The two Presidents took note of the highly successful mutual assistance arrangements to undertake flood relief operations entered into in late September by state and local authorities along the border which saved many lives. President Diaz Ordaz reiterated his thanks to President Johnson for the cooperation of the Government of the United States in rescue operations within Mexico. The Presidents noted that the flood waters were of unprecedented quantities and that the flood control system of the joint International Boundary and Water Commission had minimized the damage. They were pleased, moreover, that in addition to developing a broad program to raise living standards along the border, the recently created U.S.-Mexican Commission for Border Develop-

ment and Friendship facilitated relief operations by communicating with federal and local agencies.

The Presidents agreed that the Alliance for Progress, foreshadowed by the remarkable economic and social progress of Mexico made possible by its Revolution, has been a useful instrument, and can, as agreed at Punta del Este, be even more useful in the future in promoting, with social justice, the development of the continent. President Diaz Ordaz expressed the importance within Mexico, since their inception several decades ago, of some national programs which the Act of Punta del Este includes, such as supervised agricultural credit for low income farmers, low cost housing, and the advances in higher education. He expressed satisfaction that Mexico, as an Alliance Partner, is contributing to the training of thousands of students and technicians from other Latin American countries. The Presidents noted with pleasure that, in furthering the educational development of the Hemisphere, the Benito Juárez-Abraham Lincoln scholarships were now in operation and that more than 80 Hemisphere youth would benefit in 1967.

With reference to the meeting of hemispheric presidents at Punta del Este, President Diaz Ordaz reaffirmed his conviction that the Latin American common market will foster the economic and social development of the area in a more rapid and balanced manner, and that this is primarily an effort to be carried forward by the Latin American countries themselves. For his part, President Johnson reiterated firm support for this promising Latin American initiative.

Also with regard to the meeting at Punta del Este, the Presidents reiterated their conviction that individual and joint efforts of the American states are essential in order to increase the income of the Latin American countries resulting from their traditional ex-

ports and to avoid frequent fluctuations in the prices of these commodities, as well as to promote new exports. We agreed at Punta del Este to strengthen intergovernmental consultation in this field; we shall continue to do so.

The Presidents were gratified at the steadily increasing levels of trade which make the United States the best customer of Mexico and Mexico the best market for products of the United States in Latin America. They noted that the United States-Mexico Joint Trade Committee continues to provide a forum for discussion of trade problems. They agreed on the importance to the developing countries of access to the world market for their exports. President Diaz Ordaz noted recent proposals in the United States Congress which, if adopted, would restrict entry into the United States of some products exported by Mexico. He expressed his Government's concern regarding the adverse impact such restrictions would have on Mexico. President Johnson reiterated his desire for a continued high level of trade and stressed his opposition to protectionist restrictions.

The two Chief Executives expressed their satisfaction on the signing of a Fishing Agreement which was effected today through an exchange of notes. Mexico and the United States uphold different points of view regarding the problem of the extent of territorial waters, but these differences do not now exist with regard to fisheries jurisdiction. President Diaz Ordaz wished to underline his satisfaction that this problem has been resolved in accordance with the law recently passed by the Mexican Congress extending to twelve miles the exclusive fishing zone. In conformity with this law, United States fishing vessels will be able to continue through 1972 traditional fishing in the zone between nine and twelve miles from the Mexican coast which up to now has been

open to all fishing vessels. The exclusive United States fishing zone will be opened to Mexican fishing vessels in the same way. The two Presidents were pleased to note that this agreement has put an end to a 30-year-old difference on fisheries jurisdiction.

The Presidents commended the statesmen and negotiators whose vision and high sense of responsibility made it possible for the two Governments to reach a settlement over the Chamizal. They remarked that a settlement of this nature, freely arrived at and fair to both countries, was all too exceptional in relations between neighboring countries. In their presence, the Secretary of State of the United States of America and the Secretary of External Relations of Mexico signed a document approving for their respective Governments, as of 12:01 a.m., October 28, Minute 228 of the International Boundary and Water Commission demarcating the new boundary line between El Paso, Texas, and Ciudad Juárez, Mexico, under the Chamizal settlement. In accordance with the Chamizal Convention of August 29, 1963, that new boundary line will become effective as of that moment.

Tomorrow, October 28, the two Presidents will fly to El Paso and Ciudad Juárez and, at the invitation of President Díaz Ordaz, they will visit Ciudad Juárez for a ceremony at the Mexican memorial to the Chamizal settlement.

As a result of their discussion the two Presidents agreed that further inquiry and action should be taken with respect to several important matters affecting both countries. These are set forth in a separate release entitled, Presidents' Action program.

PRESIDENTS' ACTION PROGRAM

1. *The Work of the International Boundary and Water Commission.* They noted

that since their visit in December 1966 to the Amistad Dam site on the Rio Grande, joint construction had advanced rapidly, and that the Commission can begin to store water before the flood season of 1968. They noted that recently the two Governments had approved a project for the relocation and channelization of the Tijuana River in the States of California and Baja California, and an expansion of the international sanitation plant for the two Nogales on the Arizona-Sonora border. They recalled President Johnson's meeting with President Lopez Mateos in February 1964 at which time the Commission had been instructed to submit studies relating to any portions of land that might have become separated from the country to which they belonged, so that the Rio Grande could be made once again the boundary between the two countries from El Paso and Ciudad Juárez to the Gulf of Mexico. Upon being informed that the Commission is well advanced in the surveys needed and that the studies are underway with a view to their early completion, the Presidents agreed to ask the Commission to submit these studies, as completed, to the two Governments. They further instructed the International Boundary and Water Commission to complete as soon as practicable its studies of the recent record flood on the lower Rio Grande, and to recommend to the two Governments such modification of the international flood control project as may be necessary to control and contain floodwaters of this unexpected magnitude.

2. *U.S.-Mexico Commission for Border Development and Friendship.* The Presidents discussed the work of the Commission which they had agreed to create in April, 1966, to study cooperatively the improvement in the standard of living of communities along the border. The Presidents reviewed the minutes of the first joint meeting

of the Commission in Mexico City on October 19-20 of this year in which the two Sections reviewed plans for beautification projects and increased tourism, joint city planning between adjoining cities, increased jobs opportunities on both sides of the border, cultural centers open to nationals of both countries, health and vocational educational facilities, and other programs which will permit the neighboring communities to work together to accelerate their progress. The Presidents instructed the two Sections of the Commission to give priority attention to a program of social and economic rehabilitation of the lower Rio Grande Valley.

The two Presidents expressed common interest in considering the establishment of parallel national parks on the international border. The first location to be considered is the reservoir to be formed by the International Amistad Dam being constructed jointly by the two Governments on the Rio Grande. The U.S.-Mexico Commission for Border Development and Friendship will consider other potential locations, such as the Big Bend area of the Rio Grande.

3. *Cooperation in the Development of Water Resources.* The Presidents spoke of the remarkable exchange of information on water resources management that took place at the Conference on Water for Peace held in Washington last May. They reiterated their intention to continue to keep pace with modern science and techniques in the collaboration between the two countries for the development of their respective water resources. President Diaz Ordaz remarked on the fact that this cooperation is exemplified in the Mexican project now under construction utilizing United States technology for the desalting of ocean water for the city of Tijuana, Baja California. The two Presidents reviewed with satisfaction the progress report on the work of the United States-

Mexican Study Group, under the auspices of the International Atomic Energy Agency, which is investigating the feasibility of a joint nuclear project to desalt water of the Gulf of California for use in the States of Arizona and California in the United States and Sonora and Baja California in Mexico. The Presidents requested the Study Group to submit its recommendations to the two Governments by mid 1968. The Presidents spoke of the continued efforts of the two Governments to control salinity in the two great international rivers that their countries share. They reaffirmed the agreement reached by them on April 15 of last year concerning the need for prior consultation before either Government undertakes any projects that might adversely affect the other.

4. *Elimination of the Screwworm Fly.* The Presidents agreed in principle that the present barrier in Northern Mexico to control and eventually eliminate the screwworm fly should be extended to the narrow Isthmus of Tehauntepec. They proposed that an agreement be negotiated as soon as possible to implement this program which would materially benefit large areas in Mexico which are not now protected against this pest and would reduce the danger of its re-appearance in the United States.

5. *Expansion of Cultural Exchange.* To further extend the exchange of persons from all walks of life between the two countries, the Presidents agreed that a new cultural agreement should be negotiated. This would provide guidelines for the types of cultural interchange and foster continued understanding of and training in the two countries. They observed that in 1968 Mexico would host the nineteenth Olympiad and in that same year the HemisFair would take place in San Antonio, Texas. These types of events were viewed as important incentives to continued high levels of tourism, which

permit the peoples of their two countries to maintain personal and friendly relations.

6. *Stability for Coffee Prices.* To provide conditions of stability in the coffee trade at price levels both remunerative to producers and fair to consumers and to obtain dependable income for coffee-producing countries, they agreed that the International Coffee Agreement should be extended with such amendments as may be required to improve enforcement procedures, to bring production into line with consumer requirements, and to ensure equitable trading conditions.

7. *Movement of Articles of Archeological Significance and Historical Value.* The Presidents agreed to explore possible methods

of controlling the unauthorized movement of articles of archeological significance and historical value between their two countries.

8. *Control of Narcotics.* The Presidents noted with satisfaction the continued cooperative efforts between the enforcement agencies of both countries in the field of controlling the international trafficking in narcotics and other dangerous drugs, and resolved to continue this cooperation.

9. *Border Trade.* The two Presidents reaffirmed the decision to encourage expansion of legitimate border trade and instructed their respective Governments to conclude their studies as soon as possible so that further action may be initiated.

452 Remarks to the Delegates to the Mexican-American Conference, El Paso, Texas. October 28, 1967

Mr. President and Mrs. Diaz Ordaz, Mr. Foreign Minister and Mrs. Carrillo Flores, Governor Connally, distinguished Members of the Senate and the House, distinguished delegate to the United Nations, Dr. Garcia:

I am here on a mission that fills me with a great deal of pride and with deep satisfaction.

The Chamizal is now Mexican territory. The United States of America and the United States of Mexico have solved a political problem of more than 100 years' standing.

So the fiesta that you are enjoying serves a dual purpose:

- first, to celebrate the Chamizal, and
- second, to concentrate our attention on the achievement, and the concerns, of America's Mexican-American people.

This is the first time, to my knowledge, that the Federal Government of the United States has sent five of its top Cabinet officers

across the land in search for new ways to fulfill the fundamental hopes of Spanish-speaking Americans—hopes and yearnings that they have for good education for their children, good jobs for their workers, good wages, good health, and good housing.

This is not much to ask, but we have a long way to go in order to get it.

This is home country for me, as you know.

When I talk with you about the problems and the potentials of the Mexican-American, I am talking about people that I have known all of my life and people that I care about deeply. These people are proud people. They are strong people. They are people who are older in history than the United States of America itself.

What a change there has been in your lives—in all our lives—since I was a poor schoolteacher in a Mexican-American school at Cotulla, Texas, 40 years ago. Most people in Texas—Mexican-American included—then lived on the farm and made their living

in the fields.

Few Mexican-Americans had moved into better jobs, where they could offer their families a few of the comforts of life.

There has been a good deal of upward movement during these 40 years. It is encouraging, but it is not enough.

Tens of thousands of Spanish-speaking Americans entered professional and technical occupations during this period.

They became managers, executives, and proprietors.

They worked as key employees in some of the great new industries of the Southwest.

But for too many years your Government paid too little heed to both the status and the hopes of the Mexican-American community.

For too many years Americans who were poor remained invisible.

But in the 1960's, we decided that an era of neglect must come to an end.

And with the help of a great Congress, we wrote into law more measures to train, to educate, to heal, and to house more Americans than had ever been written in all of our history before.

We were abused, and we were criticized, and we were condemned, but we wrote into law two landmark civil rights acts to guarantee that no American would be deprived of opportunity by the prejudice of other Americans.

We did all of this amidst a sea of controversy. That was to be expected. So far as I can determine, no President has ever done anything that is very worthwhile without controversy.

And I would much rather be controversial than complacent—or just critical. You will be hearing more about that in the days to come.

The effort and the controversy, I think, have been worth it. For the first time, we had the tools to work with each minority in

a way that met its particular needs—that provided help, without regimentation or conformity.

For the Spanish-speaking citizen, there was a “New Focus on Opportunity.”

He gained a powerful voice in the highest councils of government, the voice of a distinguished public servant who sits with the Cabinet committee and gives the Mexican-American community of our Nation able leadership—Vicente T. Ximenes.

I am very pleased to observe, from the Baltimore Sun front page this morning, that the distinguished Dr. Hector Garcia, the first Mexican-American to ever sit as a delegate to the United Nations, sat in the United Nations yesterday and made a speech in Spanish to that great body.

Yes, we have found programs that answered their special needs in language, education, and economic development.

And those programs respected the rich and unique cultural traditions.

In the last 4 years, your Government has trained tens of thousands of Mexican-Americans in the Rio Grande Valley and throughout the Southwest, for useful and rewarding jobs.

And we have reached down into the smallest town and the largest city to do this.

And just as fundamental as jobs is education.

In 4 years we have passed 36 landmark education bills. We have tripled the money invested in these programs from \$4 billion to more than \$12 billion in education in this country in the last 3 years. We are doing three times as much today as we were doing 3 years ago.

These are not just statistics. They represent children that are being prepared to take part in America's prosperity and in America's future.

Let me tell you the story this afternoon of

a young Mexican-American named Frank (Pancho) Mansera who came to visit me the other day in the White House.

Pancho got off to a rough start in life. He was sickly. His parents were poor. When he came into the Head Start program, he could hardly talk or walk, even though he was 5 years old.

But after medical treatment and the stimulus of people who cared about his education, Pancho moved ahead like the wind. He became cheerful. He was active, alert, healthier. He wanted to learn. He was a bright child. He just needed a chance. Head Start and the Government of the United States—through the Congress of the United States—gave him that start. And they are going to give other children that. We will be voting to give hundreds of thousands of other children that when we pass the poverty program—I hope in the next few days.

There are more than 2 million Pancho Manseras who have gotten a new educational head start already. There are millions more who need to.

And if I have my way, they will return to this country much more than they have received.

We are moving forward to set up additional community health centers for needy families.

In 41 different sections in our country now we have neighborhood health centers that we didn't have just a few months ago. But we need more than 41.

We are ready to launch other neighborhood health centers for San Luis, Colorado, and Taos County, New Mexico. It could help more than 7,000 Spanish-speaking citizens in a remote area that has only two doctors and has limited health facilities.

So we are moving forward. Nobody

knows better than you how far we have to go.

Nobody can know, who has not experienced it, what it is like to be turned away at a personnel office because you have a strange accent. Nobody knows from the outside what it is like to have your children stumbling over words in a schoolbook, because a teacher hasn't taken the extra time to help them learn. Nobody can know, but those who have lived it, how a man wonders whether he will ever break free of the old cycle of just following the crops, and give his son a better chance.

A lesser people might have despaired. A lesser people might have given up a long time ago. But your people didn't give up. They believed. They believed that they were full-fledged citizens of the greatest nation on earth, even if others didn't always treat them as such.

It is a long way from the Cotulla schoolhouse to where I live now, but we have made progress and we are going to make more.

Today their time has come. And with the help of their Government—but far more importantly, by their own hard work and with high good humor—they are entering into their rightful heritage as Americans. They are contributing to their country's welfare here, and to their country's security abroad.

I can tell you that nothing I have seen since those days long ago when I left that classroom has given me greater happiness.

I hope that in my time of leadership that I have helped to make some of it happen. I know that in the time that remains, I am going to do all that one man can do to make the promise of these years multiply among the Mexican-American people. And you can be certain of that.

In the last 12 months, of the 129 nations in the world, the President of the United

States has conferred with more than 80 of the heads of state. That is a record since the founding of this Government.

And there is another record—in all of those more than 80 meetings, none has been as pleasant, or as successful, or as fruitful as the one just concluded with the distinguished leader of Mexico.

And I want all of you to know his beautiful, gracious, enlightened wife, Mrs. Diaz Ordaz, the First Lady of Mexico.

And Mrs. Johnson.

The Senate had to adjourn today because we had the Majority Leader and most of the distinguished gentlemen on the plane—Senators coming down here with us. I would like to ask the Members of the Senate and the Members of the Congress, including all of our own delegation—Members of the House and Senator Yarborough—to please stand and take a hand.

I want to ask our distinguished Governor to please stand and take a hand—Governor Connally.

Now ladies and gentlemen, I want to present to you the great leader of a great people, a statesman, a man who understands the needs of not only his own people but the people of the world, a man who is providing

international leadership—not only in this hemisphere, but throughout the world—because today in Afghanistan and Iran, in India and Pakistan, they are receiving the blessings of the laboratories that produced the Mexican wheat under the leadership of the great nation that the President represents—the nation of Mexico. In the years to come, you will find—not only in this hemisphere, but throughout other lands—the mark of leadership of the Mexican people. And no one will be more responsible for that, no one will contribute more than His Excellency, the able, the cordial, the friendly good neighbor, Diaz Ordaz.

NOTE: The President spoke at 11 a.m. at the Hilton Inn in El Paso, Texas. In his opening words he referred to President and Mrs. Gustavo Diaz Ordaz of Mexico, Mexican Secretary of Foreign Relations and Mrs. Antonio Carrillo Flores, Governor John B. Connally of Texas, and Dr. Hector Garcia, alternate member of the U.S. delegation to the 22d General Assembly of the United Nations.

The conference was announced on September 12 at a White House news briefing by Vicente T. Ximenes, member of the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission and Chairman of the Inter-Agency Committee on Mexican American Affairs established by the President on June 9 (see Item 259). The text of the briefing is printed in the Weekly Compilation of Presidential Documents (vol. 3, p. 1281).

453 Remarks at the Chamizal Ceremony, Juárez, Mexico.

October 28, 1967

Mr. President, distinguished guests, ladies and gentlemen:

For almost a century the word “Chamizal” stood for dispute and disagreement between the United States and Mexico.

Even 13 years ago when I introduced a resolution in the United States Senate calling for a commission that could help us settle the question of the Chamizal, there

seemed no way to bring the best efforts of both countries to bear in resolving it. My resolution got no further than the committee to which it was referred. The Chamizal remained in dispute.

Yet in the last 4 years, it has become—for both our peoples—an inspiring symbol of friendship and mutual respect. An old argument has ended. More importantly, a lasting

bond has been forged between our two countries. This is a very proud achievement.

Let this monument, and this place, stand as testimony to the world of what two nations, working together, can accomplish.

Too many times the world has seen disputed boundaries changed through force. El Chamizal stands as a shining example of how such matters should be settled.

For the last half century, each President of the United States has faced the moral issue of America's commitment to the Chamizal Convention of 1910. In that treaty, we agreed that the decision of the arbitral commission "shall be final and conclusive upon both governments, and without appeal."

I do not propose to review all the legal history that has transpired since then. But I do want to say that I am very proud that the plain language of the Convention of 1910 has become a reality today.

On other occasions I have said that it is important to the peace of the world that both our friends and our enemies believe that we in the United States mean what we say. Here in El Chamizal we have honored our pledged word. And we will continue to honor all of our commitments.

The great Mexican patriot, Benito Juárez, said: "Respect for the rights of others is peace." That principle is the foundation stone of our hemispheric relations.

A generation ago, fascism threatened that principle. Today it is another doctrine. We see it at work in the subversion and the concealed aggression in Bolivia, Venezuela, and other countries. The challenge has confronted the American States with hard choices. And we know that the American States must stand together if we are to assure that the weak are protected, that might does not make right, that our peoples are to have

the privilege of democratic choice.

Our concern and our commitments are not always easy to uphold. But we cannot abandon them simply because the price is high or the going is rough.

If Abraham Lincoln had done so, the United States, as we know it today, would not exist.

If Benito Juárez had done so, Mexico would not be Mexico.

But we have been true to our principles. Though we have followed our separate stars, we meet here today as two neighbors strong and prosperous, at peace with one another.

This is the final act of a long drama. It is a fulfillment possible only to those who respect the rights of others, and so insure their own.

That is the real message of El Chamizal.

It has been our great privilege, and has brought us great happiness, in these last few days, to receive the very able President of Mexico and his gracious First Lady in our country.

All the people they have seen they have made friends of.

President Diaz Ordaz is not only a leader of Mexico—a leader of this hemisphere—but he is a leader of the world, and the works that he has done are being known throughout all of the countries of the world.

More people will eat more food because of the enlightened policies of the Government of Mexico under the leadership of the President of Mexico.

On your farms, in your laboratories, you are producing a wheat that is being copied in many nations of the world.

It is a great privilege and an occasion of great happiness to me and Mrs. Johnson to be able to come here today and take part in this ceremony on behalf of the United States. We think we have no better friends

in the world than the Mexican people, and we know that we are their friends.

Long live the friendship of Mexico and the United States.

NOTE: The President spoke at 1:10 p.m. at the Chamizal Monument at Juárez, Chihuahua, Mexico. Following his remarks, President Gustavo Diaz Ordaz responded, and the two Presidents then signed the declaration of transfer (see Item 454).

454 Text of the Chamizal Declaration Recognizing the Transfer of Lands Between the United States and Mexico at El Paso and Ciudad Juárez. *October 28, 1967*

DECLARATION OF THE PRESIDENTS OF
THE UNITED MEXICAN STATES AND
THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

At 12:01 this morning, the boundary between Mexico and the United States changed at El Paso and Ciudad Juarez. In accordance with the Convention of August 29, 1963, the area known as El Chamizal has been returned to the jurisdiction of Mexico.

We thus lay to rest a century-old dispute. Reason, understanding, and good will have achieved a settlement of which both our peoples can be proud. This victory has been achieved while protecting our respective national interests, and assuring equity and justice for those whose lives and property were affected.

The monument which the people of Mexico have already erected on this site will stand forever as a symbol of good will between our two nations—and as a sign to the world of what men can accomplish when they approach their differences in a spirit of compromise and mutual respect.

From this great monument, we see the pass carved through the sierra by the Rio Grande. We recall the explorers who marched through this gateway and we look ahead to the progress and prosperity which the Chamizal Settlement will bring to future generations in these sister communities.

A relocated Rio Grande means a new boundary; a new boundary means new

bridges linking our two countries. Today we dedicate three such bridges.

—Mindful of the history of El Paso and Ciudad Juarez, we name the bridge closest to the sierra the “Paso del Norte Bridge”. It stands as a memorial to those who pioneered this area.

—The bridge to the east joining our two countries, we name the “Bridge of the Americas”. It is a reminder that the cities stand upon a major route of travel and commerce between Mexico and the United States.

—We name the bridge rising between the two the “Good Neighbor Bridge”, in commemoration of the spirit uniting our nations.

The new channel of the relocated Rio Grande running under these bridges we name the “President Adolfo Lopez Mateos Channel”.

May these links between our two countries, like the Chamizal itself, stand as testimony to the world of how good neighbors conduct their affairs.

DONE at Ciudad Juarez, in duplicate, in the Spanish and English languages, this twenty-eighth day of October, 1967.

For the Government of the United States of America:

LYNDON B. JOHNSON

For the Government of the United Mexican States:

GUSTAVO DIAZ-ORDAZ

NOTE: The text of the declaration was released at El Paso, Texas.

The act concluding legal requirements for the transfer was signed by Secretary of State Dean Rusk and Mexican Secretary of Foreign Relations Antonio Carrillo Flores at approximately 5:30 p.m. on October 27 at the White House with President Johnson and President Diaz Ordaz as witnesses. Remarks of Secretary Rusk on the occasion are printed in the Weekly Compilation of Presidential Documents (vol. 3, p. 1491).

An accompanying White House announcement noted that the new demarcation line was recorded

in detail by the International Boundary and Water Commission on October 19 in an agreement known as Minute 228, to which Secretaries Rusk and Carrillo Flores gave effect, as of 12:01 a.m., October 28, by signing the final act (3 Weekly Comp. Pres. Docs., p. 1480).

For a statement by President Kennedy upon approving the Memorandum of the Department of State and the Ministry of Foreign Relations of Mexico of July 17, 1963, which led to the Chamizal Convention of August 29, 1963, see "Public Papers of the Presidents, John F. Kennedy, 1963," Item 307.

455 Message to the American Bar Association's Special Committee on Crime Prevention and Control. *October 30, 1967*

Dear Leon:

America's lawyers have a special competence and responsibility to provide leadership in upholding our Constitution and the rule of law. Today many of our cities and communities are addressing themselves to a major problem—a mounting crime wave.

Throughout our history law enforcement has been a local responsibility. It must remain so, for the concept of a centralized police force is repugnant to our national tradition. The challenge of crime and lawlessness will be met when local authorities are supported by a concerned and understanding public and, in appropriate ways, by the Federal Government when they are unable to cope with the problems themselves.

As you know, I consider the war against crime one of the top priority concerns of my Administration. The Safe Streets and Crime Control Act—now being considered by the Congress—would provide needed assistance to local communities to support their

law enforcement efforts.

I am encouraged to know that the American Bar Association is focusing on law enforcement as a primary area of its activity. Your eminent organization can spearhead a program of action through State and local bar associations that can assist our States and cities in improving the administration of justice. For the front lines in the war against crime are in the streets and alleys of the local communities across America.

I commend and congratulate the American Bar Association on its timely action.

Sincerely,

LYNDON B. JOHNSON

[Mr. Leon Jaworski, Chairman, ABA Special Committee on Crime Prevention and Control, 1155 East 60th Street, Chicago, Illinois]

NOTE: The President's message was in the form of a telegram addressed to Mr. Jaworski who was attending a meeting of the committee in Chicago.

The text of the message was released at San Antonio, Texas.

456 Presidential Unit Citation Awarded to Third Marine Division,
Reinforced, Fleet Marine Force Pacific. *October 31, 1967*

THE PRESIDENT of the United States
takes pleasure in presenting the

PRESIDENTIAL UNIT CITATION
TO
THE THIRD MARINE DIVISION (REINFORCED)

for service as set forth in the following

CITATION:

For extraordinary heroism and outstanding performance of duty in action against the North Vietnamese Army and Viet Cong forces in the Republic of Vietnam from 8 March 1965 to 15 September 1967. Throughout this period, the Third Marine Division (Reinforced), operating in the five northernmost provinces of the Republic of Vietnam, successfully executed its three-fold mission of occupying and defending key terrain, seeking out and destroying the enemy, and conducting an intensive pacification program. Operating in an area bordered by over 200 miles of South China Sea coastline, the mountainous Laotian border and the Demilitarized Zone, the Third Marine Division (Reinforced) successfully executed eighty major combat operations, carrying the battle to the enemy, destroying many of his forces, and capturing thousands of tons of weapons and material. In addition to these major operations, more than 125,000 offensive counter guerrilla actions, ranging from squad patrols and ambushes to company-sized search and destroy operations, were conducted in both the coastal rice lands and the mountainous jungle inland. These bitterly contested actions routed the enemy from his well-entrenched positions, denied him

access to his source of food, restricted his freedom of movement, and removed his influence from the heavily populated areas. In numerous operations, the Third Marine Division (Reinforced) demonstrated the great efficacy of combined operations with units of the Army of the Republic of Vietnam. In July 1966, the Third Marine Division (Reinforced) moved to the north to counter major elements of the North Vietnamese Army moving across the Demilitarized Zone into the Province of Quang Tri; its units fought a series of savage battles against the enemy, repeatedly distinguishing themselves and, time and again, forcing the enemy to retreat across the Demilitarized Zone. Imbued with an unrelenting combat spirit and initiative and undeterred by heavy hostile artillery and mortar fire, extremely difficult terrain, incessant heat and monsoon rains, the Third Marine Division (Reinforced), employing courageous ground, heliborne and amphibious assaults, complemented by intense and accurate air, artillery and naval gunfire support, inflicted great losses on the enemy and denied him the political and military victory he sought to achieve at any cost. The outstanding courage, resourcefulness and aggressive fighting spirit of the officers and men of the Third Marine Division (Reinforced) in battle after battle against a well-equipped and well-trained enemy, often numerically superior in strength, and the great humanitarianism constantly shown to the peoples of the Republic of Vietnam, reflected great credit upon the Marine Corps and were in keeping with the highest traditions of the United States Naval Service.

LYNDON B. JOHNSON

457 Presidential Unit Citation Awarded to the 7th Airborne Battalion,
Airborne Division, Army of the Republic of Vietnam.

October 31, 1967

THE PRESIDENT of the United States
takes pleasure in presenting the

PRESIDENTIAL UNIT CITATION
TO
7TH AIRBORNE BATTALION
AIRBORNE DIVISION
ARMY OF THE REPUBLIC OF VIETNAM

for service as set forth in the following

CITATION:

For heroism in connection with military operations against North Vietnamese Army forces in Quang Ngai Province, during the period 14 February to 22 February 1967. An enemy regiment, encircled by a tri-nation operation, launched a full-scale, predawn attack against the 7th Airborne Battalion on 19 February 1967, under weather conditions which prevented U.S. tactical air support. The 7th Airborne Battalion, in a matter of a few hours, was heavily engaged in repelling human-wave attacks from three sides in hand-to-hand combat. In spite of heavy casualties after a five-hour battle, the gallant paratroopers continued to counterattack deeper and deeper into the

attacking force, alternately returning to their lines, as weather conditions permitted elements of fighter aircraft to make passes, and using captured weapons in their defense. With over 200 enemy dead lying on the 7th Airborne Battalion perimeter, the attackers continued to assault in an attempt to break through the hard-pressed Airborne lines. Following an emergency resupply by U.S. Marine Corps pilots, the South Vietnamese paratroopers successfully held their positions for another seven hours during determined enemy attacks. At the opportune time, the Airborne soldiers valiantly counterattacked in three directions from their positions, routed the enemy, killed many of the fleeing members of the North Vietnamese Army regiment, and captured huge quantities of weapons and equipment. Their determination was clearly evident, as individual soldiers refused to give ground to the enemy, and noncommissioned officers quickly took command where necessary. The gallantry and fighting ability of the 7th Airborne Battalion in the face of exceptionally strong enemy opposition, reflect great credit upon the Battalion and the Army of the Republic of Vietnam.

LYNDON B. JOHNSON

458 Memorandum in Response to Task Force Report "Reducing
Federal Grant-in-Aid Processing Time."

October 31, 1967

[Released October 31, 1967. Dated October 27, 1967]

Memorandum for Honorable Robert C. Weaver, Secretary of Housing and Urban Development; Honorable W. Willard Wirtz, Secretary of Labor; Honorable John W.

Gardner, Secretary of Health, Education and Welfare; Honorable Sargent Shriver, Director, Office of Economic Opportunity:

Last May, I asked you to form a Task

Force to dig deeply into the problem of unnecessary red tape in the Federal Government. It was clear to me that many Federal Agencies were taking much too long to process applications filed by State and local governments.

I directed the Task Force to find ways to reduce by at least 50% the time it takes to process applications for Federal programs in four major areas of Inter-Governmental Cooperation—Model Cities, Neighborhood Centers, Manpower Development, and Water and Sewer Facilities.

I have now read your report and I am pleased with your response. The Joint Administrative Task Force which you established has met the goal.

As a result of your work, the Federal Government soon will be in a position to respond more quickly and effectively to local needs.

We are all now aware that one of the major problems confronting Governors and Mayors is the amount of red tape involved in getting grant-in-aid projects processed by Federal Agencies.

Existing procedures are often slow and cumbersome.

They are ill adapted to major new programs, such as Model Cities, which require participation of two or more Federal Agencies and include many individual programs.

Red tape means higher costs, wasted motion and frustration for our States and cities.

More important, delay can dash the hopes of many of our citizens in blighted ghettos and slums who need help—and need it now.

There is no way to make up for lost time to poor families without adequate housing, to the unemployed who need training to get a job, to those who need the social services which can be provided by a neighborhood center.

I commend the work of the Task Force in identifying ways and means to streamline

procedures. It shows what can be accomplished when Agencies work together toward a common goal. I truly believe this effort is an important step forward in Inter-Agency cooperation.

I am pleased to note that your decisions will cut average processing time for 42 programs by 51 percent, with individual program improvements ranging from 24 to 72 percent. In one case, processing time would be cut from 376 to 139 working days, and in another case from 247 to 70 days.

I was also especially pleased to note that your recommendation called for

- Increased delegation of decision-making authority to the field.

- Elimination of unnecessary data requirements.

- Reduction in the number of technical reviews in Washington.

- Increased pre-application consultation among local, State and Federal officials.

- Improved methods of scheduling and controlling applications processing.

These recommendations have my full support and approval. But this is only a start.

All Federal Agencies must wage a relentless and continuing war against red tape.

First, each of you should institute steps now at all levels to carry through the processing improvements that you have approved. I want you to report to me, on or before December 31, 1967, that these new procedures, except in special circumstances, are fully operative.

Second, the Joint Administrative Task Force that we have established will continue for the purpose of effecting comparable administrative improvements in all critical remaining programs assigned to your Departments. A report on this work should be made to me on or before March 31, 1968.

Third, I am directing all Departments and Agencies with grant-in-aid programs involv-

ing State and local governments to undertake a comparable effort, applying the analytic techniques developed by the HUD-Labor-HEW-OEO group, and report back to me through the Director of the Bureau of the Budget not later than March 31, 1968.

I urge our State and local partners to join with us by simplifying their own laws, rules and procedures so as to cut processing time at all levels of government to an absolute minimum.

The needs of our people are urgent. I do not want a single unnecessary day of delay

in delivering vital services under programs authorized and directed by the Congress.

LYNDON B. JOHNSON

NOTE: The 19-page report is entitled "Reducing Federal Grant-in-Aid Processing Time—An Inter-Agency Report to the President." Members of the Joint Administrative Task Force follow: Dwight A. Ink of the Department of Housing and Urban Development, Chairman; Donald F. Simpson of the Department of Health, Education, and Welfare; Leo R. Werts of the Department of Labor; Robert C. Cassidy of the Office of Economic Opportunity; and Guy W. Chamberlin, Jr., of the Department of Housing and Urban Development, Staff Director.

459 Remarks of Welcome at the White House to King Mahendra of Nepal. November 1, 1967

Your Majesties, Your Royal Highness, Your Excellencies, distinguished guests, ladies and gentlemen:

It has been said that the history of Nepal is the story of her Kings.

Far back in that history, one ruler declared that "this throne of Nepal is a fort." And so the kingdom stood locked for centuries, a remote mountain fastness at the roof of the world.

It was only yesterday that another King unlocked the fortress from within. The gates of Nepal are guarded still—but they are now open to all who come and go in friendship and in peace. Our guest today has come through them in that spirit. We are proud to welcome him as the monarch who has found new keys to his kingdom. With them he has admitted all the world to a treasure house of beauty and wisdom. And he has equally thrown wide the doors of opportunity for all of his people.

It is a new Nepal he sees and seeks to build. We Americans share his vision and we share his hopes. We know it is hard for a nation to be torn from the cocoon of the

past—to be catapulted forward, almost overnight, into the 20th century. But we also know, from 15 years of partnership and progress, that the people of Nepal will triumph in their struggle.

They will modernize. They will harness the disruptive forces of change to orderly and constructive purpose. They will develop their social and their economic institutions, so that all may know security and all may find fulfillment in a richer life. They will strengthen the instruments of law and government demanded by the needs of a modern society. They will find stability in the unity that their monarch inspires.

Your Majesty, we are confident that you will turn transition into triumph. Your leadership has already won large blessings for all of your people. We want you and your people to know that your fortunes are our fortunes, that your future is our future—that we are happy to offer you the hand of friendship and the hand of partnership as you continue on with your advance.

That advance does not end at your own borders. Nepal has carried its good influence

and example into the great forums of the world. You help all nations to advance by making clear what you cherish most—and want most to see all men cherish:

- the sovereignty of peoples,
- the independence of states,
- man's right to live at peace,
- man's duty to cooperate for peace.

These principles, Your Majesties, unite our two peoples. They bind our common efforts in the United Nations, in the Asian Development Bank, and in the Colombo Plan. They bridge the vast distance between our lands. They make us brothers instead of strangers.

We are glad of that, Your Majesty. We are grateful to recall that your kingdom is the birthplace of Buddha, the Prince of Peace. His spirit is stronger now. His teachings are more widely felt, because Nepal is no longer a locked fortress. Instead, it is a window through which all the world can look to learn the truth:

“Man's fortress is his faith in man.

He will inherit his kingdom when he builds it of his trust and governs it with his heart.”

Your Majesty.

NOTE: The President spoke at 11:34 a.m. on the South Lawn at the White House where King Mahendra Bir Bikram Shah Deva was given a formal welcome with full military honors. His Majesty, who was accompanied by Queen Ratna Rajya Lakshmi Devi Shah and Crown Prince Birendra Bir Bikram Shah Deva, responded as follows:

Mr. President, Mrs. Johnson, ladies and gentlemen:

I am deeply grateful for the sentiments of hospitality and America's interest in the prosperity of Nepal just expressed by Your Excellency.

This, President Johnson, has revived for us the happy memories of the opportunity which we have had of seeing your great country about 7 years ago.

We are thankful to Your Excellency for the second opportunity to come to your vast country today on Your Excellency's kind invitation.

We are all very glad to convey to you the greetings and best wishes of Nepal and her people, nestling on the lap of the Himalayas, for the happiness and prosperity of the people of the United States of America.

We think that on this occasion we shall have the chance to explain Nepal's outlook and economic problems to Your Excellency personally, as well as to know America's outlook.

Let me again, on behalf of my entourage and myself, express our sincere thanks to Your Excellency for the hospitality extended to us.

Thank you.

460 The President's News Conference of November 1, 1967

THE PRESIDENT'S REVIEW OF THE CABINET MEETING

THE PRESIDENT. [1.] There were two or three developments in our Cabinet meeting that I thought you might be interested in. I will review with you briefly and will ask the staff, including Mr. Alexander and Mr. McPherson¹ who reviewed them with us,

¹ Clifford L. Alexander, Jr., Deputy Special Counsel, and Harry C. McPherson, Jr., Special Counsel to the President.

to go into them in some detail. They will take any questions and explain any gaps that may occur to you after I have finished.

IMPACT OF ECONOMIC PROGRESS

First of all, we have just entered our 81st month of prosperity. We had Gardner Ackley² evaluate other periods in our history and the average periods of economic prog-

² Chairman, Council of Economic Advisers.

ress that have taken place.

Then we asked each Cabinet member to give us his view and to give consideration to what this economic progress had meant in his jurisdiction. From Secretary Gardner, a sample of what this progress had meant to the health of this country, to the education of its children, the social security of its people, to the pollution problem, and to the other matters that may come under the jurisdiction of HEW; what it had meant to the Labor Department, the people employed, the children and so forth; what it had meant to the State Department in our program for underdeveloped countries, and so forth.

They have a general view and general statements, but they presently are examining what it has meant to each of them—Secretary Trowbridge in business, what it has meant to the American corporation and to the American businessman; Secretary Udall in conservation; Secretary Weaver in Housing and Urban Development; and so forth.

REPORT ON SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC CONDITIONS OF NEGROES IN THE UNITED STATES

[2.] Second, we had a very excellent presentation on the report of a group I had asked to study the social and economic conditions of Negroes in the United States. Following through on our national conference at El Paso,³ which you had a brief glance at—those of you who were with us—we will ask them to make a study of the Mexican-American and report to the Cabinet at an appropriate time on the social and economic conditions of people of Mexican extraction in this country.

I asked two Government agencies to draw together the latest, most relevant data con-

cerning the social and economic conditions of the Negro in America—the bad with the good, the disappointing with the encouraging. They placed it in a simple format that can be understood. The staff will give you the charts and review.

The study was prepared by the Bureau of Labor Statistics and the Census Bureau.⁴ I am hopeful all Americans can give serious study to it and make some contributions, because I think probably our number one domestic problem is our urban problem, our city problem, the fact that Negroes and whites have left the rural areas and gone to the cities. There we have the problem of finding jobs, training, education, hospitals, and housing for these people.

We are doing our best to encourage and accelerate our efforts on every front toward finding the best solutions. We have had some disappointments.

CONGRESSIONAL ACTION ON URBAN PROGRAMS

[3.] We are greatly distressed at the action the Congress took in the model cities program. The program was a very small beginning but it will necessarily be smaller now. But it is a beginning.

We very much regret that the Congress saw fit to cut the rent supplements from \$40 million to \$10 million. That would have taken care of housing for many thousands of people. But the Congress did not see it that way. They did leave us \$10 million.

Ten million dollars is not as good as \$40 million, but it is better than nothing.

I think you will be interested in this presentation.

I will be glad to take your questions on

³ See Item 452.

⁴ For the President's statement upon making the report public, see Item 463.

these subjects or on any other subjects that you may want to take, subject only to your time limitation.

QUESTIONS

POSSIBILITY OF TAX INCREASE

[4.] Q. Mr. President, what is your view of the likelihood of now getting a tax increase through the Congress?

THE PRESIDENT. The final decision will have to come from the Ways and Means Committee. We very much want it. We think it is very necessary in the national interest. We think that it will cost the American people much less by taking the tax route that we have suggested than by taking the inaction route that is now being followed.

As to prophesying or predicting what the Ways and Means Committee will do—even what the House will do—when and if they act, I cannot be very accurate with you. All I can say is what we feel very strongly. We have informed the leadership and the Congress and the committees of both Houses, of both parties. I would be less than frank if I didn't tell you that we are disappointed at the results obtained thus far.

We will just continue to do the best we can here to persuade the Congress to take this action that we think is very essential to avoid inflation, to keep our interest rates down that are galloping every day, and to maintain a semblance of paying part of our bills as we go along.

We think our economy not only can stand it, but we think it requires that we be responsible and that we take some action along the lines we have suggested.

We are glad to see that there are Members that think we should have a tax bill. We are glad that the businessmen, generally, and

labor, generally, and people experienced in this field, like the leading economists, believe that a tax bill now is in the best interest of the country.

As to whether Congress will act this session or not, you will have to wait and see.

PENDING LEGISLATION

[5.] Q. Mr. President, with Congress talking of adjourning the end of this month, it would appear obvious that all the legislation that you have recommended cannot be passed. Have you given the congressional leadership any kind of a priority designation?

THE PRESIDENT. None. We never do.

Now, the press this morning called these measures "must bills" and that is your credibility, not ours. You call them priority bills.

I have gone through this for about 35 years. About this time every session, you get into that.

We had a routine meeting yesterday that we have generally every Monday. We made that public in San Antonio. The leaders came in. We took up first the bills that had passed the House that were pending in the Senate. Not "must bills." Not priority bills. Not bills that had to be passed or even ought to be passed, but bills that had passed one body that had not been passed in the other. We asked for their status, and we ran through those. They ran about 20, I believe, maybe 21.

Then we turned from the Senate, from Senator Mansfield sitting here, to the House Speaker McCormack and said: "Now let us see the bills that have passed the Senate before the House acted."

We took about 20 that had passed the Senate. That did not mean 40. It may be

military construction appropriations, for example, that had passed the House now on the Senate's list and both finally would pass it. It would be one bill instead of two.

So we went through 20 on each side and got the status of them. Some of the hearings are being held, some reported, some on the calendar, and some seeking a rule. We reviewed them. That is all.

We did not talk about adjournment. We did not talk about "This must come ahead of this."

We said military construction has passed the House and is in the Senate. The Senate leader said, "We are doing so-and-so about it."

Then we looked at truth-in-lending that had passed the Senate and was in the House. They said, "That is in committee."

We did that to the tune of about 20 on each side. We had no news. We made no news. We left. Some of the leaders said the UPI told them they were going to call them when the meeting was over, and if they did, they were going to say just what happened. We considered the 20 bills that had passed the House and were in the Senate.

Some won't get out of the Senate. Some won't get out of the committee. Most of them, we think, will pass—particularly the appropriations bills. Then we considered those in the House. That was all.

INFLATION

[6.] Q. Mr. President, from your conversations with your study groups and Mr. Ackley, can you foresee a period in this country's history where there will not be inflation that is more or less a way of life?

THE PRESIDENT. We did not approach it from that standpoint at all yesterday, Smitty.⁵

⁵ Merriman Smith of United Press International.

I did not get out my crystal ball.

Q. I was thinking of the fact that it has continued without a break since World War II and wondered if by a combination of government measures you think this could be reversed?

THE PRESIDENT. I said we did not go into that with them.

EFFECT OF THE PEACE DEMONSTRATIONS

[7.] Q. Secretary Rusk said the other day that Hanoi had been encouraged by the recent peace demonstrations. I wonder, sir, if you could give us your assessment of what damage you think has been done to the American cause by the peace demonstrations?

THE PRESIDENT. I would prefer not to be negative. I would hope that every person who has a plan, a program, or observation in connection with the war that our young men are fighting out there would engage in some introspection and ask himself whether what he is about to say is going to make a contribution to solving the problem before he speaks.

If, in his judgment, it does, then he has that opportunity and that right.

So far as I am aware, there have been no great, unexpected developments that have flowed from the various suggestions and programs that have come from people on the outside who have busily engaged in finding out what is wrong.

I meet with Congressmen and Senators every day. I read every morning their statements.

We give consideration to them. But in considering them I must always bear in mind that most of those people—not even the intellectuals or the editorial writers or the columnists, pro or con, have had the benefit of the hundreds of cables that come from 110 countries, or from the men in charge, or men

who really have the responsibility for the planning and execution of some of the most intricate, detailed, dangerous, and comprehensive steps that we have ever taken.

So while we want to be reasonable, keep an open mind, and take any suggestion that is designed to help—and will—I could not honestly tell you that the various plans, programs, phrases, and key words that they use—like “snow” and “phony” and the headline-hunting phrases—I don’t think they have really helped our Marines a whole lot up there on the DMZ.

I can’t see that they have made any great contribution to solving the problem that we all are so earnestly seeking to solve.

I don’t want to be critical of anyone. I think, though, that if the American public could read Hanoi’s cables and statements and could see their reaction to some of the things that are being said in the country, that they would agree with me that all their private proposals and statements have not contributed a great deal to the solution that we so eagerly seek.

Q. Who are Hanoi’s cables to, Mr. President?

THE PRESIDENT. They are statements to people in this country. They are statements to people in other countries. They are statements on their radio. They are statements in their press. They are statements in their propaganda. I use cables symbolically of what their expressions or statements are. I will substitute the word expression for you—or their statements—if it is better.

ASSESSMENT OF VIETNAM SITUATION

[8.] Q. Mr. President, sir, do you see any lessening of their determination to go on fighting?

THE PRESIDENT. I would not want to make a prediction as to their condition now. I

have my views on it, but they involve a certain amount of speculation and judgments that I am making, so I couldn’t underwrite and guarantee.

I would not want to pay the price of stating it and then back up later and say I misled you somewhere or made a mistake.

Q. Are you optimistic, sir?

THE PRESIDENT. Yes. I believe that we are making progress. I believe that we are doing what we ought to do. I think we are going to continue doing what we ought to do. I think that it is going to be exacting, difficult, and going to require the best that is in all of us—but not nearly as much from us as it is from the men fighting out there.

If we can manifest on the homefront the same courage, the same stability, and the same good judgment they are manifesting out there, I have not the slightest doubt that we will find the solution—and find it much earlier united than we will divided.

U.S. POLICY IN SOUTHEAST ASIA

[9.] Q. Mr. President, sir, one of the main points in the domestic arguments about the policy of the war has been the fact that in 1964, when you were campaigning, you spoke of not wishing to send American boys to fight a war that Asian boys should fight. Then a year later, the Government did that. I wonder if you could give us your thinking on the change in policy?

THE PRESIDENT. There has not been a change of policy. You have quoted one sentence in a speech that contained many sentences and many paragraphs. We always have said—and we repeat now—that we do not want American boys to do the fighting that South Vietnamese boys ought to do or that Asian boys ought to do.

We are asking them *all* to do *all* they can. But that did not imply then, and does not

imply now, that we would not do what we needed to do to deter aggression.

As a matter of fact, before that statement was made, we began discussing at this table in May of that year the desirability of asking the Congress to join with us in deterring aggression.

In presenting that resolution to Congress, we made clear to Congress some of the things that I would ask you not to overlook now, namely, that we had a vital security interest in Southeast Asia, that Asian security was important to our own American security.

Second, we intended to comply with what we believed to be our commitments under the SEATO Treaty signed by Senator Mansfield and others at Manila in September 1954.

Finally, that we asked the Congress not only to approve what we had already done in resisting aggression in the Tonkin Gulf, and elsewhere in that area, but to also authorize us to take whatever steps necessary to deter further aggression.

URBAN PROBLEMS

[10.] Q. Mr. President, you spoke of the urban problem as being our number one domestic problem. I would like to ask you a sort of double-barreled question.

THE PRESIDENT. I would say urban with all the other things related to it—jobs, housing, ghettos, et cetera—included.

Do you understand what I mean by that?

Q. Yes, sir. Do you think now, sir, that that will be an issue in the next year's political campaign?

THE PRESIDENT. I can't tell what will be an issue. I am not thinking about what is going to happen in next year's campaign now. I am thinking about what we have to do right now—as quickly as we can.

If you are asking me whether it is a

Democratic Party matter or whether it is a political matter, I do not think it ought to be. I would hope that most Democrats and a substantial number of Republicans would signify by their votes that they are willing to pay the price necessary to meet this problem.

I have been, as I said before today, disappointed at the vote on the model cities in the House. We talk about urban coalition, but when we call the roll on the floor, we find that the only coalition is the one that is against us on the cities problem.

We talk about the great need for housing, but when we ask for \$40 million for rent supplements out of almost a \$145 billion budget expenditure this year, we get it cut by \$30 million. We have over 100 cities in the model cities program and we had our authorizing legislation cut in half. Then we ask for only half of what had been authorized.

We had \$600 million of really the \$900 million. Then we got only about half of the \$600 million we asked for. That is not the way to meet the problem. It is going to be slow, painful, and costly. I would hope the American people would support the leadership that urges the Congress to take action in these fields: model cities, urban renewal, rent supplements, Turnkey housing, et cetera.

I am very pleased at what has been done by private industry. I saw yesterday, as a result of our meeting with the insurance people—the billion dollars they pledged—that the mayor of New York announced that part of that money that was pledged is now going to the insured housing for a big New York project. I am pleased that private industry has responded the way it has.

I am disappointed that the Congress has made the serious, drastic reduction it has in these already inadequate programs.

THE NEW GOVERNMENT IN VIETNAM

[11.] Q. Mr. President, with the new government established in Saigon, do you think it would be useful or helpful or constructive if they could negotiate directly with the NLF?

THE PRESIDENT. I don't think it would be helpful for me to tell you to tell them what they ought to do. These people in South Vietnam have had five elections in a period of a little over 3 months.

We hope and we pray that as a result of this last election they will have a government that will be close to the people, that will provide good leadership and clean leadership, free of corruption, with a maximum of efficiency, and will get rid of incompetence wherever it appeared and corruption wherever it appeared.

We will have to see how these things develop as the government progresses.

This is their government, selected by their people. We have made, I think, according to even our most embittered critics, a rather substantial political progress in the last 13 months.

I would ask all of you to remember that it took us 13 years to go from 1776 to 1789 when we finally got our own Constitution. They have come a long way from the time we met in Honolulu to the time they elected their President in something over 13 months. That is what we did in 13 years.

They selected a Constituent Assembly. They drafted their Constitution. They ratified their Constitution. They elected the Senate. They elected the House. They elected the President and the Vice President.

Their elected leaders, in their judgment and in their wisdom, are there every day, Mr. Kilpatrick,⁶ trying to make progress and

move forward.

A good many of the Vietnamese lost their brothers when they were trying to vote in one of these five elections. A great many people were killed. They died trying to vote.

Some were almost killed yesterday during the inauguration there—trying to get a President sworn in. That action ought to revolt the civilized world. I do not know why people do not get worked up when they go to lobbing mortar shells into the city where the President is being inaugurated.

But I think what they do is a matter for them to decide. Of course, we have our hopes and our desires.

I will be talking to Ambassador Bunker before very long. He will be coming here, I hope, before Ambassador Laise⁷ leaves. I will talk to him and get his judgments. I am sure if his counsel is sought it will be available.

Pardon me for including you out of this deal, but I am sure that he will respond when desirable.

THE STOCK MARKET AND THE ECONOMY

[12.] Q. Mr. President, you talked about 81 months of stable economy. Yet the stock market appears very unstable. It has been going down for some days and it went down 13 points today. Does this suggest a loss of investor confidence in the economy?

THE PRESIDENT. First, I want to correct you before you get a credibility charge. I didn't say anything about a stable economy. I spoke of a prosperous economy.

The stock market goes up and it goes down. Last month they were talking about it going up and breaking 900 and this month it goes down.

⁷ Ellsworth Bunker, U.S. Ambassador to the Republic of Vietnam, and his wife Carol C. Laise, U.S. Ambassador to Nepal.

⁶ Carroll Kilpatrick of the Washington Post.

I do think, in fairness to your question, our people are concerned and that concern may be reflected in the market. They do not know today what to expect from the Congress now or in the future so far as taxes are concerned.

I think when you have an uncertain future, you have uncertain markets and you have uncertain stock prices. Some of this uncertainty is being reflected in the market. I think it is being reflected in the bond market and in the interest rates. I think you are paying every day—more than you know, right this moment—for the inaction that is taking place and for the refusal of our people to stand up and take the action that responsibility requires.

At first, we said there were some doubters, not many. I thought the tax testimony was overwhelming. I don't know of many bills where the testimony has been so overwhelming and so compelling as I viewed it.

But the first question was, "Well, we do not believe the economy can stand it." Do you remember that? That was back a good many months—after we submitted it in January. And that went on to August, and nothing was done about it.

Then the first days of the hearings in August it was repeated in the testimony, if I am not mistaken—the doubt that the economy could stand a tax bill then.

Then they got off that line for a while and the question then became, "Couldn't we cut appropriations?" We pointed out, "The appropriations are there to be cut. Just call the roll. We have made our recommendation. We will be glad to have you make yours. We will give yours as much consideration as you have given ours. We will try to meet you halfway. We will try to be reasonable."

Then the question was, "Will you cut them before we send them to you?"

We think we made clear to all of them

that if the House passed a bill of \$4 billion and the Senate passed a bill of \$6 billion, and the bill was in conference, we didn't know whether we could cut \$4 billion or \$5 billion or \$6 billion.

We would have to see what we could cut, depending on the bill to be cut. So now I think that has been made clear.

Then we got into the programs business. "We ought to look at the programs down the line to see if we could reduce or curtail or cut some of them back by several billions."

We have no objection to that. Congress can do that in every hearing. They look at programs—the committee that has jurisdiction can revise, repeal, or abolish any program they want abolished or cut, if the Congress sees fit.

I am not adverse to setting up a task force to study the programs. I am not adverse to having Congress new judgment on appropriations.

I think they will cut \$4 or \$5 billion out of the appropriations that we have recommended this year. I will sign those bills they send me, although I think some of them are close ones.

In the first instance, can the economy stand it? In the second, shouldn't we cut appropriations? Third, should we cut the programs?

Now we are doing nothing. We are at a standstill. I would very much hope that the Congress could say, "Well, now, we want to cut appropriations so much—\$5 billion, \$6 billion, or \$7 billion." Whatever their judgment is. "And we are willing to give you \$4 billion, or \$5 billion, or \$6 billion taxes." Whatever they are willing to do.

We will study the programs in the future and we will have a meeting of the minds. I think it is important to do this as soon as possible. Every day we are losing revenue. It costs us every day in increased prices and

in increased uncertainty and greatly in increased interest.

It may have some bearing on the stocks that you are talking about.

Q. To follow that up, is it fair to say then you believe part of the reason for the downslide on the market is congressional inaction on the tax bill?

THE PRESIDENT. No, I am not saying that. If you want to, you say that. If you don't know what I said, I hope you will read it. I didn't say that at all.

My job, as I have said to my press friends so many times, is to prevent a fight, not to provoke one. You have a different responsibility. I respect your position on the matter. I recognize it and I feel it.

VIETNAM POLICY

[13.] Q. Mr. President, again, pressure is building up in the country and around the world to have another bombing pause. Will you discuss with us the pros and cons of that situation?

THE PRESIDENT. No. I don't think there is anything that I can contribute that would be helpful. We are doing what we believe and what we know to the best of our knowledge to be the right and proper thing to do. And we are going to continue to do what we believe is right.

I would admonish and caution all of you to avoid irresponsibility and quit grabbing out of the air these speculative future ventures about which we know very little and about which the folks that apparently are guessing for you know nothing.

Q. Mr. President, in that same vein, do you think that you, personally, can help to alleviate some of the uncertainty in the country over Vietnam?

THE PRESIDENT. I am doing my best to do that every day. I tried my best in San An-

tonio when I said to the American people on the televised networks—some live and some a little later that night delayed—and through all of the press, that we would go the last mile.

We were willing to, at that moment, stop our bombing and enter into prompt and productive discussions, assuming they would not take advantage of it. They have not given us any affirmative response to this point.

We will continue willing to negotiate now, to stop the bombing now, if they will talk promptly, productively, and not take advantage of us.

But the problem is not here with your country or with your Government or with your soldiers. The problem is with the Communist enemy who insists on continuing the course that places us in Vietnam and that will keep us there until they decide might does not make right, and they cannot gobble up weaker people because they are stronger.

We are going to stand for limited objectives. We are going to try to keep from widening the war. We are going to try to deter aggression and to permit self-determination in South Vietnam.

And when that is done, we are going to be content. We do not want bases, domination, colonization. We do not practice colonialism.

We seek to do nothing except keep our commitments—try to help innocent people who want the right to live according to their own self-determination.

CONGRESSIONAL ACTION ON ADMINISTRATION PROGRAMS

[14.] Q. Mr. President, in a general way, could you describe how you feel about how administration programs are going in Congress and what you think the final score might look like?

THE PRESIDENT. They are not going as well as we would like. They are going better than most people would expect from the domestic standpoint when you look at the 47 new Republicans elected last November. Most of the 47 Democrats that supported measures like model cities were replaced. A good many of them supported most elements of the Democratic platform. They have been replaced by 47 Republicans—a good many of whom oppose these bills.

This is only the first half of this Congress. The next half will begin next January. I do not know when the first half will be over, when the bell will ring. I hope it will not be until we have faced up to some of the compelling and immediate decisions that confront us.

I do not recall precisely, but I believe that counting investment credit, tax bill, the draft, the consular treaty, and other matters of that nature—including some minor bills and treaties—that we have passed 76 measures.

We started out scheduling something over a hundred. I do not remember how many over a hundred. But I believe 76 of them have been finalized. Some of them are very minor. I emphasize *minor*. We do not want to overstate the case.

There are some 20 measures that have passed the House that we know the Senate is considering. Some of those will be passed. About 20 have passed the Senate. Some will be considered by the House.

When you add what we expect the House

to pass that the Senate has acted upon and what we expect the Senate to pass that the House has acted upon, that number will move up some. How much, I do not know.

But for the first half, I believe it will be a credible one. It will not be 90 percent as it has been in some sessions. But if you compare it to almost any other single session, you can form your judgment. I will leave that up to your opinion.

I looked at what we passed in 1935. I looked at the first hundred days in the New Deal. I looked at the first 3 years of the Kennedy-Johnson administration, and I have reviewed the last 3 years of the Johnson-Humphrey administration.

While this session is not as good as the last Congress, this session, I think, will stand reasonably well compared to the previous Congresses. That is a matter of judgment you can make by reviewing it all.

I am sure before we go home that if you desire we will review all of the achievements, accomplishments, and failures.⁸

Merriman Smith: Thank you very much, sir.

NOTE: President Johnson's one hundred and thirteenth news conference was held in the Cabinet Room at the White House at 4:25 p.m. on Wednesday, November 1, 1967. As printed above, this item follows the text of the Official White House Transcript.

⁸ For a final report on the record of the first session of the 90th Congress, prepared by the White House legislative staff, see note to Item 575.

461 Toasts of the President and King Mahendra of Nepal. *November 1, 1967*

Your Majesties, Your Royal Highness, Mr. Secretary, Ambassador and Mrs. Goldberg, distinguished guests, my friends, ladies and gentlemen:

Your country, sir, has a romantic reputation. It is confirmed by an unusual bond between our two nations.

We have today diplomatic relations, I be-

lieve, with 110 other nations. But only your country, Your Majesty, in effect, has two American Ambassadors.

Our official representative is the charming and talented Carol Laise. She loves Nepal.

Our unofficial representative is Ellsworth Bunker, a very wise and skillful man who served earlier as our Ambassador to you. He also loves Nepal.

Ambassador Laise and Ambassador Bunker were married this year in your capital. Their union is our good fortune—and yours—and theirs.

It is also a union that is unique in the diplomatic history of America. And our State Department has not been the same since.

I understand, confidentially, that Secretary Katzenbach has had now to take on extra duties—as department marriage counselor.

And Secretary Rusk has had some interesting proposals, too—though none of them has yet come from Hanoi.

If we pay you double tribute, Your Majesty, with the services of two outstanding Americans—you more than acknowledge and repay us with your friendship and example.

Every American finds inspiration in the new spirit of your country—and in your people's timeless devotion to independence and to pursuing peace.

Yours is a romantic country, yes. But you touch our hearts in new ways today. You are a nation launched on the romance of modernization—of men filled with the love of life and challenge—of men raising up, of men pushing forward, of men reaching out for new decency and greater dignity.

Your leadership, sir, has been the spark to that awakening. Your vision has seen that independence is but the gateway to security. Men must first and always be secure from their true enemies—the ancient enemies of all of us—ignorance, hunger, disease, and fear.

Sir, you have determined to drive them out of your kingdom. You are already succeeding. You will know final success because your children will know better how to meet the challenges that come to them.

In 1951, you had only 321 primary schools in all of your nation. Today you have not 321, but 5,600.

In 1951, there were only 9,000 children in the schools of your nation. Tonight there are 380,000.

That is success—and more. For every child is the seed of another and larger success.

This day, Your Majesty, marks the start of a great Hindu holiday in your country. I think it is appropriate for us to celebrate that holiday with you—by wishing that all of your children, all of your seeds, grow up tall and strong in the light of learning. No leader could do more for his people; no leader could leave them with a brighter legacy.

Let that be our toast here tonight. The leaders in our Government, the Majority Leader, the Members of the Senate and the House who have come here, the representatives of the Cabinet, our distinguished Ambassador to the United Nations—let us all join tonight in celebrating the future of a very proud people, a brave land, and a wise ruler.

Ladies and gentlemen—His Majesty, the King of Nepal.

NOTE: The President proposed the toast at 11 p.m. at a dinner in the State Dining Room at the White House. In his opening words he referred to King Mahendra, Queen Ratna, Crown Prince Birendra, Secretary of State Dean Rusk, Arthur J. Goldberg, U.S. Representative to the United Nations, and Mrs. Goldberg. During his remarks he referred to, among others, Nicholas deB. Katzenbach, Under Secretary of State. As printed this item follows the text released by the White House Press Office.

King Mahendra responded as follows:

Mr. President, Mrs. Johnson, ladies and gentlemen:

Please accept our grateful thanks for the kind sentiments just now expressed by Your Excellency about Nepal and her people.

I and my entourage long remain grateful to Your Excellency for the invitation to visit your prosperous country which has made it possible for us to meet each other, to exchange ideas, and to explain and understand each other's problems and viewpoints.

I am seeing your country for the second time after 7 years. During these 7 years, many events occurred in several parts of the world and there were great changes. Nepal, also, had a share of these.

Under the compulsion of circumstances, many things altered. Today we are marching along the road of a partyless Panchayat democratic system.

It would be no exaggeration to say that this system has served us as a good instrument for steadily bringing about an adequate degree of popular awakening, as well as for accomplishing national reconstruction works.

Although in comparison to other systems current in the world today, our Panchayat system appears to be new. It has proved itself suitable to our country as a system in which people's representatives have a more active share in the administration of the country at various levels.

Rastraya Panchayat functions as the highest legislation which is held in high esteem by the people and their representatives. All the Ministers, including the Prime Minister, must be its members.

We do not mean that ours is the best system and others should imitate it, but we have no hesitation in affirming that it is the only democratic system suited to the time and circumstances and our country and society.

Compared to America, Nepal is a small country on the lap of the Himalayas in central Asia. Although a small developing country, we Nepalese are proud of our culture, its history, tradition, and status.

The independence and sovereignty of our country is extremely dear to us.

Even as we respect others' honor and friendly traditions, we expect others to respect our independence and friendliness. We can never take an offensive attitude toward others, nor can we tolerate any offensive attitude toward us.

Nepal believes in maintaining peace and friendship with all, especially her neighbors, now and ever after.

She believes in the greater efficacy of love, mutual good will, understanding, and universal welfare than of fears and threats.

It is Nepal's conviction that the way of peace, friendship, and cooperation is better and easier than the way of war for reaching the goal, for realizing the ideal of the well-being of one's country and society.

Nepal can never agree that world peace is possible through unnecessary interference and encroachment in others' affairs or through putting pressure upon others by any power—big or small.

Cherishing these hopes and objectives, Nepal has been fortunate to receive aid and cooperation from various friendly countries for her reconstruction.

It still remains her policy to welcome gladly all aid and cooperation attuned to her needs and offered to her on friendly terms.

Nepal is very grateful for the aid and cooperation received from your great country in her progress and development. Nepal is also grateful to your advanced country for the opportunities granted to the Nepalese, including my own son, Crown Prince Birendra, to study as well as to teach in many of your institutions for higher studies.

I believe every year more and more American citizens are having increased experiences of the pure and peaceful atmosphere of Nepal and the friendly feelings of the Nepalese people. This has resulted in a greater degree of fellow feeling and understanding between our two countries and peoples.

On the official level, also, exchange of visits is gradually going up. Today on this happy occasion we extend to Your Excellency and Mrs. Johnson an invitation to visit Nepal in the full hope that you will give us an opportunity to receive you in our hospitable country.

Before concluding, I, on behalf of all the Nepalese, again express our sincere best wishes for the ever-increasing progress and prosperity of the American people and request Your Excellencies, ladies and gentlemen, to join me in proposing a toast to the health and long life of His Excellency, the President and Mrs. Johnson, and the American people.

462 Joint Statement Following Discussions With King Mahendra of Nepal. *November 1, 1967*

AT THE invitation of President and Mrs. Johnson, King Mahendra and Queen Ratna of Nepal are paying a State visit to the United States of America beginning Novem-

ber 1, 1967. The Crown Prince, who is studying in the United States, joined Their Majesties during this State visit. Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Kirti

Nidhi Bista is accompanying Their Majesties. On their completion of the Washington portion of the visit, during which they have met various members of the United States Government, Their Majesties are traveling to various points of interest in the United States before departing for Nepal on December 3.

The visit afforded King Mahendra and President Johnson an opportunity to become acquainted with each other and to discuss matters of mutual interest and concern. The personal rapport and mutual esteem stemming from their conversations enabled them to discuss these matters with the frankness and friendship which characterize the relations between the United States and Nepal.

The King explained to the President the efforts made in Nepal to secure a better standard of living for the people under the Panchayat system and the measure of success achieved in this direction. President Johnson was impressed with the progress made in Nepal under His Majesty's leadership and praised Nepal's emphasis on increasing agricultural production and the increased self-help measures taken by Nepal. King Mahendra explained that Nepal hoped to have achieved an increase of fifteen percent in its agricultural production by the end of the current five-year plan in 1970. President Johnson assured His Majesty of the continuing deep interest of the United States Government and people in supporting Nepal's efforts to reach its goals. King Mahendra thanked the President for the important role being played by the United States for achieving these high purposes.

King Mahendra and President Johnson discussed the efforts which both the Governments have been making to ease world tensions. It was agreed that the strong support of both countries for the United Nations would not slacken. The King explained that

the policy of peaceful co-existence and non-alignment had a continuing validity for Nepal at a time when there were increased tensions in the region itself. The President expressed his understanding of Nepal's efforts to reduce tensions. In affirming their desire for a world in which the arms race could be slowed and in which general and complete disarmament could be achieved under safeguards, President Johnson and King Mahendra expressed their earnest hope that a non-proliferation treaty would soon be concluded. They reasserted their unwavering support for a world of law and order and one in which international obligations and non-interference in the internal affairs of a country are solemnly respected.

King Mahendra and President Johnson discussed other problems facing the world today. They reviewed the situation in Viet Nam, stating their respective views, and agreed that the problem of Viet Nam could be solved in accordance with the Geneva Agreement of 1954. They expressed the hope that a lasting and honorable peace would soon be restored to Viet Nam. With respect to the Middle East, it was agreed that both Governments should continue to support the efforts of the United Nations to evolve a just and durable peace for the Middle East which would be acceptable to all the peoples affected by the recent hostilities there.

President Johnson and King Mahendra agreed that their friendly exchange of views, reflecting the mutual respect and equality of the two nations, had reinforced the already strong bonds of friendship which have characterized Nepalese-American relations since their inception in 1947 and made more meaningful their common quest for peace, justice, and progress.

In taking leave of President Johnson, King Mahendra expressed his thanks for the warm

and friendly reception accorded him. King Mahendra extended a cordial invitation to President Johnson and Mrs. Johnson to visit

Nepal. The President expressed his gratitude for the invitation and his hope that he and Mrs. Johnson could visit Nepal.

463 Statement by the President on the Report "Social and Economic Conditions of Negroes in the United States." *November 2, 1967*

THIS SUMMER, I asked two highly respected Government statistical agencies to draw together the latest and most relevant data concerning the social and economic conditions of Negroes in America—the bad with the good; the disappointing with the encouraging—in a simple format that could be easily understood.

That report, prepared by the Bureau of Labor Statistics and the Census Bureau, is now ready and I commend it to all Americans for serious study. As the report indicates, no set of statistics can present a complete picture of all aspects of life. We have not yet learned to measure on a yardstick all the elements that contribute to a sense of equality among people. Yet much can be learned from the evidence at hand.

This report, as I view it, backs up neither of the extreme positions that emerged in the wake of the summer disturbances. It does not confirm the diagnosis of bleakness and despair: that there has been no recent progress for Negroes in America and that violence is therefore a logical remedy. It does not confirm the opposite view: that "Negroes have been given too much."

We know those views to be fruitless. This report shows them to be false as well.

Far from showing "no progress," the picture revealed is one of substantial progress. As the Nation rode a great tide of social and economic prosperity over the past 7 years,

Negroes in America not only kept up with the general advance, but in important ways moved ahead of it. In education, in occupations, in income, in housing, most Negroes have made gains over the past few years. Today, for the first time, a substantial number of Negroes in America are moving into the middle class.

But that is only one of the meanings in this data, and taken alone it is of only limited value. The second meaning is grim.

The gap between Negro and white levels of living in America is still large despite progress. What is most troubling is that in many of the worst slum areas of America, life is not getting better for Negroes—it is getting worse.

Any set of data is subject to a wide variety of interpretations, and I am sure that this report will not be an exception. I have formed my own judgment about its deeper meaning.

The Negro progress made over the past 6 years was earned by millions of Negro Americans going to school, getting better jobs, making higher wages—motivated by the same drives for a better tomorrow that motivated white Americans during this period of economic expansion. Government helped by opening doors of opportunity. Our civil rights laws have opened doors to jobs, schools, housing, public accommodations, and voter participation that were once closed to Negroes. Manpower training programs

have opened doors for skill improvement. Aid to education is providing better schools with better teachers and better facilities. Medicare and Medicaid and other programs are opening the way to better health.

The American system places a premium on individual enterprise and initiative. The data in this report show again that when people have a chance to better themselves—they will better themselves.

The data show that our job is not ended. Millions of Americans—whites as well as Negroes, children as well as adults, in every region of the Nation—remain unreached by the opportunities of the day.

In the urban areas—large cities particularly—as I have pointed out time and time again, the Nation faces a major problem. Successful Negroes are moving out of the worst slum areas, leaving behind communi-

ties that are inhabited largely by the deprived, the unskilled, the handicapped, and new immigrants from the rural South. It makes all the more urgent that the Federal programs for reclaiming these slums be adequately funded. We must put our country first by giving top priority to the problems of our cities. This must be without regard to party or politics.

The data in this report show that people do make progress, great progress, when they have the opportunity to do so. Our job in the coming days and the coming years is to continue and to intensify our efforts to offer people a chance.

Let us get on with the job.

NOTE: The report, dated October 1967, is entitled "Social and Economic Conditions of Negroes in the United States" (BLS Report No. 332; Current Population Reports, Series P-23, No. 24; Government Printing Office, 97 pp.).

464 Message Greeting Members of the Foreign Service on Foreign Service Day. *November 2, 1967*

I AM HAPPY to greet members of the Foreign Service of the United States on this day dedicated in their honor.

Foreign affairs today involve a vast range of relationships between peoples: information programs, cultural programs, technical assistance programs, educational exchanges, and international trade, to name only a few.

Although every major department and agency of the national government is now concerned with some phase of foreign policy, our ability to employ our vast resources to best advantage rests—in large measure—on the skill and dedication of those principally responsible for our foreign relations.

Americans in foreign service carry the major burden of representing the American

people and their interests abroad. They are subjected to physical hardships and at times to physical danger. As President, I am well aware of the sacrifices we demand of them, and of their families.

The Foreign Service may be proud of the manner in which it discharges its great responsibilities. I believe it fitting that we set aside this day to honor those who serve their country abroad. By so doing, we show our appreciation for their contribution to the security and well-being of our nation, and to the peace of the world.

LYNDON B. JOHNSON

NOTE: The message was transmitted via the Department of State on October 26, 1967.

465 Remarks to the Delegates to the 1967 Consumer Assembly.
November 2, 1967

Mr. Clayman, Miss Furness, distinguished Members of the Congress, ladies and gentlemen:

Someday your children and your grandchildren are going to be very proud to be able to say that you were here today at this conference. And I am very proud, myself, that you are here.

The idea that the consumer in America deserves protection is a relatively new American idea.

In the early days of our history, the only consumer law was "let the buyer beware." And a great many consumers thus were victimized by the fast-buck artists of those days. Our country was almost 100 years old before the first consumer protection law was passed in this country. And that law just prohibited the fraudulent use of the United States mails.

Some of the abuses that brought about that early legislation would insult our intelligence today. They were "American ingenuity"—at its very worst.

—For instance, there was a man who advertised that he would send you a steel engraving of George Washington if you sent him a dollar. When he got your dollar, safe and sound, he sent you a one-cent stamp.

—Another fellow asked for a dollar in return for a sure-fire method of exterminating potato bugs. For your dollars, you received a slip of paper saying, "Catch the bug, put him between two boards, and then mash him."

On the American frontier, the practice of medicine was equally haphazard at its best. People bought the cure-alls like "Kick-a-poo Indian Sagwa"—that promised you everything but the headache they produced.

At the turn of the century, there was no guarantee that the meat Americans ate was not diseased—or even that it came from the advertised animal. One newspaper wrapped up the problem in a short poem which read like this:

"Mary had a little lamb,
 And when she saw it sicken,
 She shipped it off to Packingtown,
 And now it's labeled chicken."

Foods were filled with very strange chemicals, whose effect nobody knew. It was 1909, the year after I was born, before President Theodore Roosevelt could say that America had finally awakened to the fact that "no man may poison the people for his private profit."

We take it for granted, today, that such outrageous practices are forbidden by the law of the land.

But without the indignation and without the action of an aroused public—without the Federal Government's very strong sense of responsibility to the consumers of America—the counters in our stores might still be filled with "Kick-a-poo Indian Sagwa."

Without the great milestones of consumer legislation, we would still be playing Russian roulette every time we dealt in the marketplace.

—Our savings would be stolen by unscrupulous speculators.

—Our bodies would carry burn scars from clothing which ignited without warning.

—Our food would be tainted; our drugs would be unsafe.

—Our children would be maimed by the toys their parent brought home to them. Consumer legislation is a continuing

process of serving the changing times in which we live. Technology daily makes our present laws obsolete. Progress is never an unmixed blessing. It can bring countless unforeseen hazards.

Fortunately, these problems are usually resolved in our competitive market, by the engines of private enterprise and their energies.

But dangers must be predicted whenever possible. Standards must be set when necessary. And consumers must be safeguarded from the unreasonable risk.

In the modern marketplace, there are still plenty of traps for the ignorant and the unwary—far more subtle than those our grandfathers knew anything about, but they are no less dangerous than those that grandpa faced. The difference is that the confidence men who brew them up wear Brooks Brothers suits and have college degrees today.

—Every year, Americans pay millions of dollars for parched and worthless land.

—Every year, our citizens are lured, unsuspecting, into credit traps which drive them to desperation, and many to death.

—Every year, Americans eat, on the average, 27 pounds of uninspected red meat—meat that may be mislabeled, tainted, or dangerously diseased.

—Every year American families furnish their homes with fabrics that are dangerously inflammable.

This is a consumer's administration, of which I am a part. I have sent three major messages to the Congress in the last 4 years—asking for strong laws to protect our people from those who would cheat them or those who would expose them to unreasonable hazards in pursuit of a cheap and easy dollar.

The 89th Congress passed several major pieces of legislation which materially helped the consumer to a better life.

—The Truth-in-Packaging Act, that would tell the buyer just what he is buying, how much it weighs, and, besides, who made it. The days of the “jumbo quart” and the “giant economy quart” are already over.

—The Child Protection Act, to guard our children against hazardous toys. Today there is a law that protects a child from poisoning if he puts one of his toys in his mouth—a law that protects him from being burned by firecrackers that look like candy.

—The Traffic and Highway Safety Acts, to protect our drivers from dangerous vehicles, and to train them to protect themselves from each other.

Still we have just begun our program for the consumer. There are currently on my recommendation 12 major actions before the Congress. There are some votes lost in every one of these major actions, but they are for the benefit of the American people. We are going to do right regardless of how popular it is.

At a time when economy is the byword of our Nation, these 12 measures should be among the first bills passed. The cost to the taxpayers is virtually nothing. The savings to the consumer are in untold grief as well as millions of dollars.

The truth-in-lending bill—its great and distinguished author, Mrs. Sullivan, is on the platform today, and the chairman of the committee that is going to bring the bill out of the committee I hope very soon and pass it, Mr. Patman, is here with us—would require the moneylenders of our society to inform the citizen—to tell the parents who need to borrow for their children's education, or to pay medical bills, or to buy a car or a television set—just how much it will cost to borrow that money.

The lender knows to the very penny how much interest he is charging. We don't think it is too much to ask that he also tell the borrower.

We have proposed amendments to the Flammable Fabrics Act of 1953. As new materials are invented, new hazards occur. We don't want a repeat of the incident when young girls were incinerated by their own sweaters.

We want to see minimum safety standards set for the movement of natural gas by pipeline. These pipelines may run under your city streets and under your own bungalow. We don't want them to erupt; we don't want them to kill your townspeople.

As representatives of our 200 million consumers, these bills concern each of you directly. It has been said that the consumer lobby is the most widespread in our land, yet the least vociferous and the least powerful. Well, I disagree.

You can only wield the power that you have if you are willing to make yourselves heard. You have the interest, you have the organization, you have the numbers, you have the horsepower.

And we have made sure that you have access to the highest councils of your own Government. The President's Committee on Consumer Interests, the Consumer Advisory Council, and my very talented Special Assistant for Consumer Affairs, Betty Furness, are all—I started to say available to you—available to consult with you.

They are willing to hear your ideas, take your suggestions, listen to your complaints, and then pass them along to me, if I can be helpful.

I don't want to have any monopoly on these complaints. Your Congressmen should hear from you, too—often, loud, and clear.

As I speak here, at this very moment, there are two specific issues which I think should

call for your attention. They threaten you consumers and they threaten your country.

The first is inflation. By keeping a close watch on our economy, we have managed for the past 81 months to keep our consumer price rise lower than that of any other nation in the industrial West. We have kept the housewife's dollar secure. We have even been able to lower taxes.

If the two tax bills that we repealed in the last 2 years were on the books today, they would bring in an additional \$24 billion.

But now there are pressures on our economy which demand that we ask for a portion of that \$24 billion back—in the form of a surcharge. It would be a penny out of every dollar.

We estimate that the 10 percent surcharge, so-called, would average one penny out of every dollar earned.

Now, I realize that it is hard for you to ask the people you represent for more taxes, but let me give you just two quick examples of what will happen, if you don't get that tax.

A family of four with an income of \$5,000 would pay nothing under our tax proposal. They are exempt. But the chances are very great that they would pay \$147 a year under the inaction inflation tax.

A family with an income of \$10,000 will pay \$285—or \$174 more than some economists estimate it would pay if the surcharge is passed. So inaction will cost you an estimated \$174, if you earn \$10,000 a year.

You don't see the effects of inaction now, but you are going to see it next year when it is too late for you to correct your own errors.

The second issue you should know about is the threat of protectionism. Protectionism is rearing its head in the form of certain quota bills now before the Congress trying to take care of each Congressman's district. And when we begin to think more of our district than we think of the country, we are

likely to get into trouble.

Those proposed quotas would invite massive retaliation from our trading partners throughout the world. Just the little publicity that has been spread around the globe has them all concerned and up in arms.

Prices would rise. Our world market would shrink. And so would the range of goods which American consumers choose when they buy.

I think those protectionists' bills just must not become law. And they are not going to become law as long as I am President and can help it.

So I plead with you consumers. I plead with all Americans. I urge you to make yourselves heard, to exercise your rights, to fulfill your duties both as consumers and, more important, as citizens.

We have too much to preserve. We have reaped the harvest of a vigorous prosperity—a record prosperity that has lasted for 81 months—the longest in history. Our consumers now enjoy the highest standard of living in America that has ever been known to civilization. Yet one in every seven of our citizens—one out of every seven of our fellow human beings—exists below the poverty

line. And every citizen faces unreasonable risks in the modern marketplace.

There are danger signs on the horizon now which should arrest the attention of each of you.

When all Americans enjoy the bounties of this rich land, when all Americans can live in dignity and security—then we can say we have done the consumer justice. This is the largest meeting of this kind that has ever been held, I am told, in this town for a cause like this. I hope you will never be satisfied with anything less than getting the consumer justice. I don't believe you will settle for anything less. And I promise you, as your President, that I will not settle for anything less.

Thank you very much.

NOTE: The President spoke at 3:17 p.m. in the Regency Room at the Shoreham Hotel in Washington to approximately 1,000 representatives from 63 local, State, and national consumer organizations. In his opening words he referred to Jacob Clayman, President of the Consumers Federation of America and Administrative Officer, Industrial Union Department, AFL-CIO, and to Betty Furness, Special Assistant to the President for Consumer Affairs. During his remarks he referred to Representative Leonor K. (Mrs. John B.) Sullivan of Missouri and Representative Wright Patman of Texas, Chairman of the House Committee on Banking and Currency.

466 Remarks at the Swearing In of the Members of the New District of Columbia Council. *November 3, 1967*

Mr. Justice Clark, Mayor Washington, Deputy Mayor Fletcher, distinguished Judges, distinguished Members of the Congress and leaders in the Congress for the District of Columbia, City Council Members, ladies and gentlemen:

First, I want to express my deep personal appreciation for the patriotism, the dedication, and the unselfishness that has been evidenced by the three Commissioners who have worked themselves out of a job.

I have never known men who wanted to do better or who have tried harder or who have been more pleasant to work with. I would like Ambassador Tobriner, General Mathe, and Mr. Duncan to please stand and take a hand.

We have come here to the East Room this morning to celebrate a very historic day.

This morning the future separates from the past.

Here in the Nation's Capital, the city of

all the people, a new era of government is beginning.

For 100 years now, the citizens of Washington have been waiting for this moment.

Many men and women have worked hard, long, and faithfully to try to make this possible.

The list is long. It includes many Members of the Congress, some of whom are with us today—and all of whom I am grateful to.

It includes the three Commissioners whom I have just introduced who have helped to solve the unemployment problem by working themselves out of a job. Now the people of the District will gain nine new employees to replace the three that are leaving.

With that, I believe that Washington will take a step toward moving from a wagon-wheel government into the jet age in the 20th century.

The new government launched here this morning, I hope, will be an effective force for the people's hopes—and especially for the people's needs.

Earlier this morning, I took the first step by signing the revenue bill for the District of Columbia. This will give the new government a stronger fiscal base for the work that it must do.

Now a large part of this job is going to be up to you—the City Council—Council Chairman Hechinger, Vice Chairman Fauntroy, all the members on the Council—all of you, I hope, working as a team under the leadership of the constructive program of Mayor Washington and Deputy Mayor Fletcher.

Your problems are out there waiting for you on the streets. Don't minimize them, because they are many. And they are serious. All of them are pressing.

They are the problems of people.

So, help us solve them.

Help us find ways to drive crime from

the midst of the Nation's Capital, so that citizens can walk safely through our streets.

If I could elaborate just a moment. If we could clean up this crime situation and make Washington the safest city in the Nation, I think it would just be a matter of time, then, when there would be so much encouragement and so much support from all of our people and all of our Congress that we could have the best educational system, we could have the cleanest city, and we could do all these other things that need so much to be done.

Now it is the chicken and the egg. Which comes first? We realize that because of inadequate education, because of the diseased condition of many of our people, and because of unemployment—all of these things lead to crime.

But the time has come, in my judgment, when the American people are going to rise up in revolt at the lawbreaker in this country.

We are going to have to obey the law. And we are going to protect the citizen under the law, though we are not going to protect his right to run over other people, to violate the rights of other people, and to take the law into his own hands.

So if you need twice as many policemen, if you need to pay them twice as much, if you need twice as much communication, if you need extra automobiles and motorcycles and educated people, then let's start to work to get them. But let's clean up crime here.

Now I don't know that there is any single person who is responsible. I guess if there is, Dr. Gallup would say that I am. But I like crime just like I like castor oil. Some people say the courts are. Some people say the police are. Some people say that ignorance and disease—and a lot of other things—are to blame.

Well, I am not here to say that anyone is responsible. I think every person tries to do what he thinks is right. But some of them get

led astray sometimes; some of them make mistakes.

But I do want to say this to the Congress, as I said to 80 Congressmen last night, I want to appeal to them to try to quit treating the District of Columbia—now Senator Morse, I am not talking to you. You just stay seated. I am not going to attack. I want to say to the Washington Post I am not the slightest angry. And I want to say to the fellow the day before, I am not lambasting anybody. I am not attacking.

Now, that is what I am not doing. But what I am doing—I want to say to the Congressmen, of both the House and the Senate, as I said last night, let's don't treat the Nation's Capital as a stepchild.

Let's try to make it a model child. Let's try to make it the best we can produce. Let's try to let it be the city that every other city in the world would like to copy.

I want to pay a great compliment to the District of Columbia Government for the patience, tolerance, understanding, wisdom, and good judgment that they showed in connection with the demonstration here a few days ago.

We didn't lose 40 or 50 lives as we lost in Detroit. We didn't have a lot of people carried to the graveyard.

We did have some 600 arrests of people who just wouldn't comply with the law and we had a good many penalties.

We got through a very difficult situation.

The same day they were having the same problems in Rome, in Paris, in Bonn, in Berlin, in Czechoslovakia, and other parts of the world, because since last April they had been planning those things.

But I am glad that we had the patience and the judgment to handle it without killing.

Although it was one of our most difficult situations, it is one of the greatest tributes

to our District Government that they can deal with difficult situations and they can deal with them intelligently.

I want to ask this Council this morning to help us find ways immediately to start driving crime from our midst.

I want to ask every judge who is out there in the East Room this morning, or out there in his chambers, or on his bench, to take his part of the personal responsibility.

I want to ask the District Attorney, at whom I am looking, and every assistant that works for him, to bear in mind that he has a very peculiar and particular part to play.

And I wouldn't mind seeing a few lights in courthouses around here at night cleaning up these dockets and bringing us justice—and bringing it quickly.

I want to say to every policeman that we want you to conduct yourself as the finest example of law enforcement in this country—understanding our citizenship and always bearing in mind that the law-abiding citizens, the people, are the masters and we are their servants.

But when you enforce the law and do what is right, this Council will support you, this Mayor will support you, and this President will support you.

I want to ask the Council and the Congress to help me find ways to make the schools of the District of Columbia places of excellence for this community.

I think it is disgraceful that so many families feel that their children can't go to public schools because they are inadequate and because the conditions are such that the mother and father don't feel their children get the best training in the Nation's Capital.

I want this Council and this Congress to help us find ways to build more decent homes quicker for those who have never known a decent home in their life.

I want the Council and the Congress to

help me find ways to make responsible citizens out of young men and women who are eager for a chance—and who will make the most of it, if you will just give it to them.

I think we are living in a goldfish bowl here in Washington. I think that spotlight is on every one of us and the whole Nation is looking at us, because this is the Nation's city. This is the people's city.

So, ladies and gentlemen, your challenge is, I think, quite unique. I think the challenge is to begin today to start turning Washington into a model community—a place of pride for our children to play, for our people to live, and for our parents to work.

The Federal Government stands ready to help you.

And I think one million people will support you, if you will furnish the strength, inspiration, and the leadership.

So a man's judgment is no better than his information. And you don't learn much when you are talking, and I am going to stop.

But get out there on those streets and talk to those people in their homes and in their businesses. See what is in their heart and in their head, what they need, and how we can best supply it. Let's try to unite this city in a drive that will ultimately give us a National Capital of which we can be proud.

Thank you very much.

[At this point the members of the Council moved forward to be sworn in. The President then resumed speaking.]

While they are moving up here, I think I ought to tell you a little joke, because they say I stay angry so much of the day. A few years ago, as a young man, I was sent to the Senate cloakroom. A somewhat maverick United States Senator came in to me and said, "I want to join the Democratic Party. And I want to serve on two committees, the District of Columbia and Foreign Relations."

It seemed to me there was some little difference in the importance of the two committees—at least I thought so then. I thought he was well equipped. And I couldn't imagine anybody wanting to serve on the District of Columbia Committee.

But I agreed to assign him to those two places. I want to recognize this morning that quality of service. I doubt that there is anybody in the District who has done more for the District, more to help the President—Republican or Democrat—to make the District a decent place to live than Senator Morse.

Before you all applaud, I just want to say this: He has put the interests of the District of Columbia first all of the time. I hope after he gets a little more time to spend on foreign relations that he will be as good in that field.

[At this point, the members of the District of Columbia Council were sworn in by retired Supreme Court Justice Tom C. Clark. The President then resumed speaking.]

There is one thing I want to do before we go in the next room. We are going to have a little receiving line. We will see as many as we can before I am too late to the next appointment.

We will ask the Mayor and the Deputy Mayor to be in the receiving line. We will ask the other Council members to be in the next room in a line so that you can go to both rooms—those of you that care.

I want to express my heartfelt appreciation. I think speaking for the District of Columbia—perhaps a last time, because the Mayor will take over that job after this reception is over—I want to express the gratitude of all the people of this community to Mr. Horsky and to Mr. Pollak for working through the years to try to give us a better city.

At great personal sacrifice, at great financial sacrifice, and under great emotional

strain, Mr. Horsky has worked with me for several years here trying to make the District of Columbia better.

He was succeeded by Mr. Pollak, who has done a magnificent job. Everything he has done, Mr. Horsky has worked with him in doing. We are all so grateful to both of them.

Thank you.

NOTE: The President spoke at 11:40 a.m. in the East Room at the White House. In his opening words he referred to retired Supreme Court Justice Tom C.

Clark, Walter E. Washington, Commissioner of the District of Columbia, Thomas W. Fletcher, Assistant to the Commissioner, and to the members of the Council: John W. Hechinger, Chairman, Walter E. Fauntroy, Vice Chairman, Margaret A. Haywood, J. C. Turner, Joseph P. Yeldell, John A. Nevius, Stanley J. Anderson, William S. Thompson, and Polly Shackleton. During his remarks he referred to former Commissioners of the District of Columbia Walter N. Tobriner, newly designated U.S. Ambassador to Jamaica, Brig. Gen. Robert E. Mathe, and John B. Duncan, and to Charles A. Horsky and Stephen J. Pollak, former assistants to the President on National Capital affairs.

467 Statement by the President Upon Signing the Independent Offices and Department of Housing and Urban Development Appropriation Act, 1968. *November 3, 1967*

I AM TODAY signing the Independent Offices and HUD Appropriation Act for fiscal year 1968.

This measure represents a cut from the budget request of January of more than \$600 million. More than \$500 million of that has been slashed from the Department of Housing and Urban Development.

Some have called the passage of this act a legislative victory. It might better be called a legislative miracle—the opposition was that strong. Ninety-three percent of House Republicans voted to recommit and kill rent supplements. Eighty percent voted to recommit and delete all funds for model cities. Despite the effective opposition of so many Republicans, the lives of both these vital programs—rent supplements and model cities—have now been extended.

But it was no victory for the 200 American cities which have already submitted model cities applications. For them the reduction this year of \$350 million alone in model cities funds comes as a bitter blow.

It was no victory for the 30,000 poor families who will be denied and deprived of decent housing built and operated by private

industry because the rent supplement program was cut from \$40 million to \$10 million.

It was no victory for more than 500,000 needy city dwellers who could have been reached by the new “one-stop” neighborhood centers which this measure eliminated.

It was no victory for tens of thousands of suburbanites and commuters around our congested cities when next year’s urban mass transit appropriation was reduced by \$55 million.

Last August, I wrote to Senate Majority Leader Mansfield urging that Congress appropriate the full funds for our city programs. I said we can no longer be satisfied with “business as usual.”

“These problems,” I noted, “demand the best that an enlightened nation can plan, and the most that an affluent nation can afford.”

The Senate responded by approving virtually all of the budget requests with some Republican Senators voting to help.

But in the end, the familiar old voices of reaction and status quo prevailed in the conference with the House. They prevailed even

after the Nation's leading private insurance executives came to the White House and promised me to make an investment of \$1 billion in our cities—to work hand-in-hand with our Federal programs. They prevailed even after last summer's agony when Congress cut the budget request for housing and urban development by more than 25 percent while reducing everything else in this \$10 billion appropriations bill by a total of less than 1 percent. This represents a disordered sense of priorities and a blindness to human needs. And, in the process, our American cities and the American people have been shortchanged.

Despite these setbacks, however, we will not allow the programs to falter, although they are much smaller than we would like

them to be. I have directed Secretary Weaver, operating with these reduced funds:

- To speed processing time so that these programs can get to people faster.
- To spend every taxpayer's dollar carefully, wisely, and effectively.
- To encourage the maximum involvement of the private sector through the new "Turnkey" concept.

So I sign this measure, not with a full sense of achievement, but with the determination to move ahead, to fulfill a pledge I made nearly 4 years ago: "A decent home in a decent neighborhood for every American citizen."

NOTE: As enacted, the bill (H.R. 9960) is Public Law 90-121 (81 Stat. 341).

468 Statement by the President Upon Signing Bill Prohibiting Obstruction of Criminal Investigations.

November 4, 1967

ORGANIZED CRIME is the shame of a modern nation.

It mocks every concept of an ordered and just society.

It is a disgrace that hobbles our progress, as its influence spreads into businesses and threatens the home of private citizens.

The files of our Federal law enforcement agencies document a series of incidents which should shock all Americans:

- Citizens brutally beaten with baseball bats.
- Men and women burned and maimed by blowtorches.
- Families terrorized, homes invaded, and lives threatened.

Why?

Because these citizens gave Federal officials information to expose suspected criminals.

These outrages obstruct our system of Fed-

eral criminal justice.

They frustrate our efforts to root out the underworld.

But because the Federal Government did not have the necessary Federal law, the Government has been powerless to act.

Today there are strict Federal penalties for those who coerce, intimidate, harass, or attack a witness once court action has begun.

But it is not a Federal crime to commit these same brutal acts during the investigation preceding trial.

Last February, in my message on crime in America, I urged the Congress to promptly correct this omission in our laws.

The bill I signed last night—S. 676—corrects this omission and closes that loophole.

Now, for the first time, it will be a serious crime to obstruct a Federal criminal investigation through bribery, intimidation, force,

or threats of force.

This measure will impose strict sanctions against all who hamper the work of Federal law enforcement.

But its chief impact will fall on organized crime—those corporations of greed and corruption that infect our society.

This bill will not banish organized crime.

That will not happen until all Americans roll up their sleeves in righteous anger, determined to remove this blot from our midst.

But this bill will help.

It will help break the racketeer's grip of fear which forces citizens to remain silent and permits crime to go unpunished.

S. 676 is an important part of our continuing work to improve the machinery of law enforcement.

This vital work will be furthered when the Congress enacts two other bills I proposed last February in my crime message. These measures are essential to the control of crime in America. I again urge the Congress to join me in the war against crime by making these bills the law of the land.

They are:

—The Safe Streets and Crime Control Act, the most comprehensive measure ever devised to strengthen the power of local communities across America in enforcing the law and administering criminal

justice. For in our system law enforcement has always been—and must remain—a local responsibility.

—The State Firearms Control Assistance Act—to keep deadly and dangerous weapons out of the wrong hands so that our homes and families and children can be protected.

Violations of law and order—in whatever form—erode the roots of society.

All Americans must recognize that it is not enough to complain about the fact of crime, or lament its statistics.

For we know that crime will yield not to cries of woe—but to responsible action.

The work of fighting crime ranks as one of the most pressing responsibilities of the Nation's communities.

We are committed to the cause of preventing crime where it can be prevented.

We are committed no less to the task of bringing to justice—fairly and swiftly—those who break the law.

The measure I signed helps move us closer to these goals.

NOTE: As enacted, the bill (S. 676), approved on November 3, 1967, is Public Law 90-123 (81 Stat. 362).

The Omnibus Crime Control and Safe Streets Act of 1968 was approved by the President on June 19, 1968 (Public Law 90-351, 82 Stat. 197).

469 Message to the Congress Transmitting Annual Report on U.S. Food Aid Programs. *November 6, 1967*

To the Congress of the United States:

I am pleased to transmit to the Congress a report of our food aid programs during calendar year 1966.

This report marks a year in which the productivity of American agriculture and the generosity of the American people have done much to help others to help themselves.

Food and fiber valued at \$1.5 billion were provided to needy people in more than one hundred countries. Since 1954 the United States has provided almost \$16 billion in farm products to 116 countries which together contain almost half of the world's population.

To millions of human beings, this sharing

has meant survival in the face of drought or other natural disaster. To countless children it has meant freedom from the weakness, disease, and mental retardation which are the tragic consequences of malnutrition.

In 1966, however, United States food aid programs entered a new and more critical stage. The world's food problem was growing—not diminishing. Despite our efforts, serious food shortages threatened many countries. The problem of feeding rapidly growing populations was compounded by serious drought in India and Pakistan—the worst drought on the South Asian subcontinent in this century.

The world faced two related problems:

- to stimulate agricultural production in the food-deficit countries so that they will eventually be able to grow their own food, or to buy it through the normal channels of world commerce; and
- to provide direct food shipments sufficient to ward off starvation and severe malnutrition during the interim period until the deficit countries achieve self-sufficiency.

After a long and careful study, the United States undertook to carry its share of the burden in a worldwide War on Hunger. I sent to the Congress a special message proposing that the United States lead an all-out effort to reverse the dire trend in the race between world population and world food supply. The response of the Congress gave us the tools to wage that war.

There are *six* main elements of the new strategy.

Emphasis on self-help. The War on Hunger must be fought and won within the countries where hunger exists. Our food aid and other forms of assistance must go primarily to those who do the most to help themselves. The key to victory over hunger is self-help.

Policy for a non-surplus era. In the past, our food aid programs have been based on the existence of food surpluses in the United States. These surpluses are gone. Until the less-developed countries are able to provide for themselves, our domestic farm programs must be geared to ensure that we produce enough to meet pressing foreign needs as well as the demand here at home.

Population programs. Rapid population growth can make the dream of plenty a nightmare of famine. This is an enormous problem. It is clearly a matter for the conscience of each family and each nation. We will never dictate an answer, nor intrude on the decision others must make for themselves. But many countries have voluntarily decided that the time has come to confront the population challenge. We stand ready to respond to the requests for help from these nations in formulating and carrying out effective programs.

Integration of all U.S. assistance programs. Relief from immediate suffering is only part of the War on Hunger. It gives precious time and strength for a larger task. The developing countries must use this time to gather the resources and skills to improve their agricultural production so that they can ultimately stand on their own feet. This is the goal of our technical and economic assistance. Clearly, our food aid must be closely related to these other forms of help in a single, carefully integrated approach to the entire food problem.

Increased private investment. There is no easy or simple answer to the scourge of poverty and hunger. No single program, no single plan, and no single government holds the key. We must marshal the sum of our experience. We must bring to bear more and more the capital and know-how of private enterprise—both in the United States and in

the developing nations themselves.

A multi-national effort. The food deficit is a world problem. Developed nations must join in an international undertaking to combat hunger and modernize agriculture. The United States cannot shoulder this responsibility alone. In meeting the world's food needs, the common interest lies in common effort. In sum, we propose to enlist the very best talent—private and public, of all nations, rich and poor.

As I have stressed, our own food aid is only a part of a wider attack on the causes of hunger. We made effective use of this new approach in the Sales agreements signed in 1966. In the program with India, for example, our food assistance complements India's own strenuous measures to increase agricultural production. We also made a special effort to encourage help to India from other developed nations.

We seek new agreements with other countries in the same spirit. Our goal is to achieve both self-help in the developing countries and close integration of our own aid with

the assistance of other wealthy countries.

The developing nations are helping themselves. Given a critical margin of capital, technical skill, and interim food shipments from the advanced countries, the threat of mass hunger will eventually diminish. Over the past twelve years, PL 480 has meant the difference between life and death for millions all around the world. That challenge and that momentous obligation are still with us.

I know that Americans have the dedication, the patience, the skills, and the wisdom to see the job through. Working together with rich nations and poor, all equally determined that mankind will conquer its oldest enemy, we will win the war on hunger.

LYNDON B. JOHNSON

The White House

November 6, 1967

NOTE: The report is entitled "The Annual Report on Activities Carried Out Under Public Law 480, 83rd Congress, As Amended, During the Period January 1 Through December 31, 1966" (185 pp., processed).

470 Statement by the President Concerning a Gift Permitting Construction of an Addition to the National Gallery of Art. *November 6, 1967*

IN 1937, Andrew Mellon gave to the Nation his magnificent art collection and the funds to construct in Washington the National Gallery of Art. President Roosevelt and Congress anticipated that someday the National Gallery might need to expand, and Congress reserved the area adjoining the National Gallery—the area bounded by Fourth Street, Pennsylvania Avenue, Third Street, and North Mall Drive, NW.—as a site for future additions.

Today, I have been informed by the Chairman of the Trustees of the National Gallery, Chief Justice Earl Warren, that a gift of \$20 million has been made to the National Gallery of Art. The money will be used to construct a new addition to the Gallery on the land reserved 30 years ago by Congress.

It is fitting that this dramatic new initiative in the enrichment and beautification of the Nation's Capital should come from the son and daughter of the original benefactor

of the National Gallery—Mr. Paul Mellon and Mrs. Mellon Bruce.

The gift of Mr. Mellon and Mrs. Mellon Bruce will make possible a new building housing a Center for Advanced Study in the Visual Arts which will serve as a meeting ground for teachers and scholars from all over the world. Their gift will also permit the Gallery to expand its extension services which already reach 3,000 communities in all 50 States.

I hope that Congress, in considering legis-

lation to authorize the new construction, will fully appreciate the fact that this new addition to the National Gallery can be built without the expenditure of one dollar of Federal funds.

On behalf of the present and future generations of Americans and visitors from all over the world to whom this gift will bring so much pleasure and stimulation, I wish to express to Mr. Mellon and Mrs. Mellon Bruce our sincere gratitude.

471 Statement by the President on the Death of John Nance Garner. *November 7, 1967*

JOHN NANCE GARNER would have been 99 years old on the 22d of this month. Few are given so long a time, and fewer still have used their years to such advantage. Few men in history had more experience in government nor more respect from his colleagues during his long career in public service.

The Nation joins with the people of his beloved Uvalde in mourning the loss of one whose determination and joy of life were an inspiration to so many generations of Americans.

NOTE: Mr. Garner died at his home in Uvalde, Texas, on November 7, 1967. He served as Representative from Texas 1903-1933, Speaker of the House of Representatives 1931-1933, and Vice President of the United States 1933-1941.

472 Message to President Podgorny on the Occasion of the 50th Anniversary of the Establishment of the Soviet Government. *November 7, 1967*

ON BEHALF of the people of the United States of America, I extend cordial greetings and best wishes to the peoples of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics on the occasion of their national holiday, which this year marks the 50th anniversary of the establishment of the Soviet Government. It is my hope that the good will of the peoples of both countries can find expression in joint efforts

toward the achievement of a stable and lasting peace throughout the world.

LYNDON B. JOHNSON

NOTE: The telegram to President Nikolai V. Podgorny, Chairman of the Presidium of the Supreme Soviet, was read by George E. Christian, Special Assistant to the President, at his news conference at 11:07 a.m. on Tuesday, November 7, 1967, in his office at the White House. It was not made public in the form of a White House press release.

473 Statement by the President on the Development of a Multinational Program for Science and Technology in Latin America.

November 7, 1967

I URGED adoption of this program at Punta del Este, and am gratified that it is developing soundly. We continue to support the program and remain ready to join the Latin American countries in launching and funding these multinational efforts.

NOTE: The President's statement was made public as part of a White House release following a meeting

between the President and Dr. James R. Killian, chairman of the corporation of the Massachusetts Institute of Technology. Dr. Killian reported on his recent visit to Latin America to study the development of a multinational program for science and technology. He was serving at the request of the President as a member of the group of experts convened by the Presidents of the American States following their meeting at Punta del Este, Uruguay in April 1967 (see Items 176, 177).

474 Remarks Upon Signing the Public Broadcasting Act of 1967.

November 7, 1967

Secretary Gardner, Senator Pastore, Chairman Staggers, Members of the Congress, Cabinet, ladies and gentlemen:

It was in 1844 that Congress authorized \$30,000 for the first telegraph line between Washington and Baltimore. Soon afterward, Samuel Morse sent a stream of dots and dashes over that line to a friend who was waiting. His message was brief and prophetic and it read: "What hath God wrought?"

Every one of us should feel the same awe and wonderment here today.

For today, miracles in communication are our daily routine. Every minute, billions of telegraph messages chatter around the world. Some are intercepted on ships. They interrupt law enforcement conferences and discussions of morality. Billions of signals rush over the ocean floor and fly above the clouds. Radio and television fill the air with sound. Satellites hurl messages thousands of miles in a matter of seconds.

Today our problem is not making mira-

cles—but managing miracles. We might well ponder a different question: What hath man wrought—and how will man use his inventions?

The law that I will sign shortly offers one answer to that question.

It announces to the world that our Nation wants more than just material wealth; our Nation wants more than a "chicken in every pot." We in America have an appetite for excellence, too.

While we work every day to produce new goods and to create new wealth, we want most of all to enrich man's spirit.

That is the purpose of this act.

It will give a wider and, I think, stronger voice to educational radio and television by providing new funds for broadcast facilities.

It will launch a major study of television's use in the Nation's classrooms and their potential use throughout the world.

Finally—and most important—it builds a new institution: the Corporation for Public Broadcasting.

This Corporation will assist stations and producers who aim for the best in broadcasting good music, in broadcasting exciting plays, and in broadcasting reports on the whole fascinating range of human activity. It will try to prove that what educates can also be exciting.

It will get part of its support from our Government. But it will be carefully guarded from Government or from party control. It will be free, and it will be independent—and it will belong to all of our people.

Television is still a young invention. But we have learned already that it has immense—even revolutionary—power to change, to change our lives.

I hope that those who lead the Corporation will direct that power toward the great and not the trivial purposes.

At its best, public television would help make our Nation a replica of the old Greek marketplace, where public affairs took place in view of all the citizens.

But in weak or even in irresponsible hands, it could generate controversy without understanding; it could mislead as well as teach; it could appeal to passions rather than to reason.

If public television is to fulfill our hopes, then the Corporation must be representative, it must be responsible—and it must be long on enlightened leadership.

I intend to search this Nation to find men that I can nominate, men and women of outstanding ability, to this board of directors.

As a beginning, this morning I have called on Dr. Milton Eisenhower from the Johns Hopkins University and Dr. James Killian of MIT to serve as members of this board.

Dr. Eisenhower, as you will remember, was chairman of the first citizens committee which sought allocation of airwaves for educational purposes.

Dr. Killian served as chairman of the

Carnegie Commission which proposed the act that we are signing today.

What hath man wrought? And how will man use his miracles?

The answer just begins with public broadcasting.

In 1862, the Morrill Act set aside lands in every State—lands which belonged to the people—and it set them aside in order to build the land-grant colleges of the Nation.

So today we rededicate a part of the airwaves—which belong to all the people—and we dedicate them for the enlightenment of all the people.

I believe the time has come to stake another claim in the name of all the people, stake a claim based upon the combined resources of communications. I believe the time has come to enlist the computer and the satellite, as well as television and radio, and to enlist them in the cause of education.

If we are up to the obligations of the next century and if we are to be proud of the next century as we are of the past two centuries, we have got to quit talking so much about what has happened in the past two centuries and start talking about what is going to happen in the next century beginning in 1976.

So I think we must consider new ways to build a great network for knowledge—not just a broadcast system, but one that employs every means of sending and of storing information that the individual can use.

Think of the lives that this would change:—the student in a small college could tap the resources of a great university.

Dr. Killian has just given me an exciting report of his contacts in Latin America as a result of some of the declarations of the Presidents at Punta del Este that he has followed through on and how these Presidents are now envisioning the day when they

can dedicate 20 or 25 or a larger percent of their total resources for one thing alone—education and knowledge.

Yes, the student in a small college tapping the resources of the greatest university in the hemisphere.

- the country doctor getting help from a distant laboratory or a teaching hospital;
- a scholar in Atlanta might draw instantly on a library in New York;
- a famous teacher could reach with ideas and inspirations into some far-off classroom, so that no child need be neglected.

Eventually, I think this electronic knowledge bank could be as valuable as the Federal Reserve Bank.

And such a system could involve other nations, too—it could involve them in a partnership to share knowledge and to thus enrich all mankind.

A wild and visionary idea? Not at all. Yesterday's strangest dreams are today's headlines and change is getting swifter every moment.

I have already asked my advisers to begin to explore the possibility of a network for knowledge—and then to draw up a suggested blueprint for it.

In 1844, when Henry Thoreau heard about Mr. Morse's telegraph, he made his sour comment about the race for faster communication. "Perchance," he warned, "the first news which will leak through into the broad, flapping American ear will be that the Princess Adelaide has the whooping cough."

We do have skeptic comments on occasions. But I don't want you to be that skeptic. I do believe that we have important things to say to one another—and we have the wisdom to match our technical genius.

In that spirit this morning, I have asked you to come here and be participants with me in this great movement for the next

century, the Public Broadcasting Act of 1967.

This act has a host of fathers. Many years ago when I was a Member of the Senate I had a bill prepared—Mr. Siegel drafted it for me—on public television. I had difficulty getting it introduced.

I asked Senator Magnuson to introduce it. He did. I am sorry he can't be here today. But he called me before I came over here and explained to me how happy he was that this event was taking place.

I don't want to single out any one person, because there are so many who have worked so long to bring this bill into where it is this morning to be signed.

I do want to recognize, though, in addition to Senator Magnuson, Senator Pastore, the Chairman of the subcommittee who has spent many days, weeks, and years in this effort, Senator Cotton, the ranking member of that committee, Chairman Staggers, Congressman Macdonald, Congressman Springer, all of whom have been part of the team that has brought this measure to the White House to make it the law of our land.

I should like to send a very special word of greeting to Mr. William Harley and the National Association of Educational Broadcasters who are gathered out in Denver today and who are participating in this ceremony by remote control.

As I mentioned before, we are honored to have Dr. James Killian here this morning. We are grateful to him and other members of the Carnegie Commission who provided the ideas and inspiration some of which are incorporated in this legislation.

I think I should add that John Gardner came to me in the early days when he was head of the Carnegie Commission, before we brought him in here, and suggested this Commission and asked me to help participate in forming it and making suggestions.

We are indebted to Dr. Gardner for this as we are to many things that he has done to provide leadership in the field of what is really important in the world—the education of our people.

At this time I am going to call on Dr. Alan Pifer who is president of the Carnegie Corporation who has a statement that I hope will be of interest to all of you.

Dr. Pifer.

[At this point Dr. Pifer spoke briefly. The text of his remarks is printed in the Weekly Compilation of Presidential Documents (vol. 3, p. 1532). The President then resumed speaking.]

If there are any other distinguished and generous people, I will be glad to recognize

them. If not, I want to express my personal appreciation to Mr. Douglass Cater of the White House staff for the many months that he has followed this legislation and worked on it.

NOTE: The President spoke at 11:33 a.m. in the East Room at the White House. In his opening words he referred to Secretary of Health, Education, and Welfare John W. Gardner, Senator John O. Pastore of Rhode Island, and Representative Harley O. Staggers of West Virginia, Chairman of the House Committee on Interstate and Foreign Commerce. During his remarks he referred to, among others, Seymour N. Siegel, director of radio communications in New York City and a member of the broadcasters advisory council to the President.

As enacted, the bill (S. 1160) is Public Law 90-129 (81 Stat. 365).

475 Remarks Upon Signing Bill Providing Equal Opportunity in Promotions for Women in the Armed Forces.

November 8, 1967

Mr. Vice President, distinguished Members of the Secretariat and the Armed Forces, Members of the Congress, Mrs. Hobby, Judge Hughes, ladies and gentlemen:

We have come here this morning to strike another blow for women's rights. At long last we are going to give the dedicated women of our Armed Forces the equal treatment and the equal opportunity that they should have had from the very beginning.

We took the precaution this morning of asking the ladies to supply the honor guard. That is in case there are still some diehard traditionalists who do not approve of our action.

As our good friends Senator Margaret Smith and Congresswoman Bolton, Mrs. Hobby, and many others can testify, women in uniform have had to fight on more than the battlefield of war. I well recall when one of my male colleagues in the House of Representatives, back in 1942 when we were

debating the bill to create the WAAC, had this to say:

"I think it is a reflection upon the courageous manhood of this country to pass a law inviting women to join the Armed Forces in order for us to win a battle.

"Take the women into the Armed Forces, who then will do the cooking, the washing, the mending, the humble homey tasks to which every woman has devoted herself?

"Think of the humiliation! What has become of the manhood of America?"

But the ladies won their battle—and the manhood of America has survived. Colonel Hobby got her Women's Army Auxiliary Corps and the school opened in Fort Des Moines, Iowa. All of you who may have been there will remember what she said on that day:

"You have a debt to democracy, a debt with destiny." I think history has recorded how magnificently our American women

have lived up to that obligation and have kept that date. They are still keeping it.

There are more than a thousand women in our Armed Forces in Vietnam today. There are some here this morning to witness this ceremony who have returned from Vietnam.

I think you would like to see them, express your appreciation to them, and give them a hand. If they will stand up, I will appreciate it.

Our Armed Forces literally could not operate effectively or efficiently without our women. Yet, we nearly lost them at the end of the Second World War. In 1948 the House Armed Services Committee voted to retire the WACs and the WAVES to the Reserves. There was to be no place for them in the regular services.

But that action was reversed. The ladies of the Congress—and perhaps a few female allies in the press gallery—changed that action.

Our gallant ladies were assured permanent status in the military services. But even then they were not assured equal opportunity. From that day to this day a woman choosing a military career could expect to do her job with fewer promotions and therefore, with less pay than a man who was doing the same type of work. Furthermore, she had only about 10 percent as much chance of being promoted above the grade of major—and she had no chance at all of ever being promoted above the grade of colonel.

With the signing of this bill this morning, we are going to end that inequity.

This bill will give the career women of our Armed Forces no special privileges. But it does relieve them from some very special handicaps.

The bill does not create any female generals or female admirals—but it does make that possible. There is no reason why we should not someday have a female Chief of

Staff or even a female Commander in Chief.

I realize that a few of our gentlemen officers may not be too enthusiastic about this possibility. And I can understand why: As Dr. Samuel Johnson once observed, "Nature has given women so much power that the law has very wisely given them little."

But from now on, the officers and men of our Armed Forces will just have to take their chances in open competition along with the rest of us.

This is a free country. This is a democratic country. I think the time has now passed when opportunity can be denied to anyone.

We gave women the vote and somehow the country survived. In this administration we have passed laws that provide that women in industry must receive equal pay for equal work. And the economy seems to continue to prosper.

We have brought women to ever higher and more influential positions throughout the land—and the Government has improved. Women are leaders and doers today in our Congress and throughout our Government.

So here today in the East Room in the White House we will end the last vestige of discrimination—I hope—in our Armed Forces.

So both as President and as the Commander in Chief I am very pleased and very proud to have this measure sent to me by the Congress.

I can think of no better company in which to sign it. For in a very real sense this law belongs to every one of you who are here in this room this morning.

It is also a great pleasure, before I engage in the signing ceremony, to take this opportunity in the presence of this very distinguished audience from the Congress, Government, services, and the country to honor two very brave ladies of our Armed Forces for very outstanding service in con-

nection with the conflict in which our Nation is engaged in Vietnam.

To Air Force Nurse Colonel Ethel A. Hoeffly we are going to award this morning the Legion of Merit. And to Army Nurse Major Marie L. Rodgers, we are going to award the Bronze Star.

Colonel Kobach and Colonel Hayes will read the citations.

[At this point the citations were read. The President then resumed speaking.]

Our Vice President has just spent 11 days in Southeast Asia and has just completed a report to the National Security Council, the Cabinet, and the appropriate leaders in the Congress in connection with his observations on that trip.

The one outstanding thing, and the most important of all that I know will give all of you great pride, was his observation that the military leaders in that area—the best men that we have been able to produce—feel that we have never had a better trained or better

equipped fighting force and we have never had better morale found anywhere in the uniform of the United States than in those men and women who are holding high our flag in Vietnam today.

I know you join me in expressing gratitude—thanks to all of them and to the Vice President.

NOTE: The President spoke at 11:15 a.m. in the East Room at the White House. In his opening words he referred to Vice President Hubert H. Humphrey, Oveta Culp Hobby, first Director of the Women's Army Corps, and Sarah T. Hughes, U.S. District Judge for the Northern District of Texas. Later he referred to Col. Ethel R. Kobach, Chief of the Air Force Nurse Corps and Col. Anna Mae Hayes, Chief of the Army Nurse Corps, who read the citations commending the distinguished services of Colonel Hoeffly in Japan and Okinawa and of Major Rodgers in Vietnam.

As enacted, the bill (H.R. 5894) is Public Law 90-130 (81 Stat. 374).

On October 13, 1967, the President signed Executive Order 11375 providing equal opportunity for women in Federal employment and employment by Federal contractors (3 Weekly Comp. Pres. Docs., p. 1437; 32 F.R. 14303; 3 CFR, 1967 Comp., p. 320).

476 Statement by the President on the New International Grains Arrangement. *November 8, 1967*

I AM PLEASED to announce that Acting Secretary of Agriculture John Schnittker has today signed the new International Grains Arrangement on behalf of the United States Government. We will be submitting it to the United States Senate for its advice and consent.

When ratified by participating governments, the new arrangement will go into effect July 1, 1968, replacing the International Wheat Agreement. Its duration will be 3 years.

This new arrangement, an outgrowth of the Kennedy Round of trade negotiations, contains two major provisions:

First, it establishes new minimum prices in world trade for 14 major wheats. For U.S. wheats, the new minimums are generally about 23 cents a bushel higher than under the old International Wheat Agreement.

Second, it establishes a new program under which developed wheat exporting and importing nations will provide 4.5 million tons of food grain or cash equivalent annually to less developed countries—the first time this has ever been done on a regular and continuing basis.

The new arrangement thus will provide new price insurance to U.S. wheat farmers

and at the same time will bring other wheat exporting and importing nations into partnership with us in helping the developing nations of the world meet the urgent food needs of their growing populations while they expand their own food production.

NOTE: The President transmitted the arrangement to the Senate for its advice and consent on January 25, 1968 (4 Weekly Comp. Pres. Docs., p. 124). The text is printed in Senate Executive A (90th Cong., 2d sess.). A summary was made public with the President's statement (3 Weekly Comp. Pres. Docs., p. 1534).

477 Message to the Congress Transmitting the Surgeon General's First Report on Regional Medical Programs. *November 8, 1967*

To the Congress of the United States:

I am happy to send to you the Surgeon General's first report on Regional Medical Programs, as required by the Heart Disease, Cancer and Stroke Amendments of 1965.

Because the law and the idea behind it are new, and the problem is so vast, the program is just emerging from the planning stage. But this report gives encouraging evidence of progress—and it promises great advances in speeding research knowledge to the patient's bedside.

In 49 regions covering 91 percent of our population, regional alliances have been formed between medical schools, hospitals and local doctors. \$24 million in Federal planning money has been awarded. By early 1968, we hope to have programs underway covering 98 percent of the Nation's population.

Most important, the imagination, knowledge and energy to operate these programs will come from the local level. More than 1600 local health leaders—physicians, officials of medical centers, hospital administrators, teachers and other health workers—are active as members of Regional Advisory Groups.

In five regions, cooperative medical programs are already operating, with the help of \$7.3 million in Federal grants:

- the Albany Region, covering northeastern New York, and portions of

- southern Vermont and western Massachusetts;

- the Intermountain Region, covering Utah and parts of Colorado, Idaho, Montana, Nevada and Wyoming;

- the states of Kansas, Missouri, and Wisconsin.

These areas are reporting important results already.

In the Intermountain Region, for example, physicians in community hospitals are now linked by special radio and television networks with experts at the University of Utah Medical Center in Salt Lake City.

In Wisconsin, doctors are making special studies of uterine cancer patients, with the hope of improving and standardizing treatment methods.

The Missouri region is pioneering new services in the Smithville area where doctors and patients benefit from computer-assisted X-ray diagnosis and other advanced techniques which may some day be available in the entire region.

Progress is being made and I believe these programs will help us overcome the dreaded killer diseases—heart, cancer and stroke. And they will put us farther along the road to our goal of modern medical care for every American citizen.

LYNDON B. JOHNSON

The White House

November 8, 1967

NOTE: The report is entitled "Report on Regional Medical Programs to the President and the Congress" (Government Printing Office, 105 pp.).

For remarks by the President on signing the Heart Disease, Cancer, and Stroke Amendments of 1965, see 1965 volume, this series, Book II, Item 551.

478 Statement by the President Upon Signing Order Enlarging the Federal Council for Science and Technology. *November 8, 1967*

I NEED the coordinated advice and help of every Federal agency with major responsibilities in science and technology. The addition of State, HUD, and DOT members to the Federal Council for Science and Technology will make the Council more effective.

NOTE: The President's statement was made public as part of a White House release announcing the issuance of Executive Order 11381 (3 Weekly Comp. Pres. Docs., p. 1538; 32 F.R. 15629; 3 CFR,

1967 Comp., p. 326). The order amended Executive Order 10807 of March 13, 1959 (24 F.R. 1897; 3 CFR, 1959-1963 Comp., p. 329), which established the Council, by adding to its members representatives of the Departments of State, Housing and Urban Development, and Transportation. Increasing involvement by these departments with matters of science and technology, the release said, had made desirable their representation on the Council, which is chaired by Dr. Donald F. Hornig, Special Assistant to the President for Science and Technology (3 Weekly Comp. Pres. Docs., p. 1537).

479 Statement by the President Upon Signing the Departments of Labor, and Health, Education, and Welfare Appropriation Act, 1968. *November 9, 1967*

SOCIETY'S fundamental work is the purpose of this bill:

- education of our children and the conquest of disease,
- health care for mothers and children and security for the elderly,
- training for men and women who need the skills for decent jobs.

This bill appropriates \$13.2 billion for the Department of Labor and the Department of Health, Education, and Welfare. This compares with \$4.06 billion in the 1960 bill and \$5.69 billion in the 1963 appropriation bill. In 4 years we have doubled our efforts and in 7 years tripled them.

While Congress gave careful consideration to our requests—and honored most of them—one aspect of this measure disturbs me.

The bill reduces by almost two-thirds the

funds we requested for the Teacher Corps—from \$36 million to \$13.5 million.

This reduction is small in the context of a \$13 billion appropriation. But its impact will fall on thousands of young Americans in classrooms across the Nation.

The Teacher Corps, I believe, is one of the great educational ideas of our time.

Its promise is to help rescue what could become a lost generation.

Its purpose is to bring the best teachers to poor children in cities and rural areas, to compensate for years of disadvantage.

This program has weathered fierce political attack. In 1965 when it was first proposed, 95 percent of the House Republicans tried to vote it down. That opposition has continued. The survival of the program against these heavy odds has been a legislative triumph. Not only has the program sur-

vived—it has succeeded.

Our request this year to advance this highly successful program was modest by every realistic standard. We sought only 2,500 new teachers to carry forward the work so well begun. But because of the drastic reduction in funds, the Teacher Corps has been put on a starvation diet of 350 new teachers.

The effect of this cut cannot alone be measured in dollars and cents. No price can be set on the promise which might have en-

riched a young life, but did not—because the right teacher was not there at the right time. There is no way of gauging the loss when an idea cannot reach the classroom—and so fails to inspire a young mind.

I sign this bill, however, with the satisfaction that it will help us proceed with the Nation's basic work, at a pace three times that of just 6 years ago.

NOTE: As enacted, the bill (H.R. 10196) is Public Law 90-132 (81 Stat. 386), approved November 8, 1967.

480 The President's Toast at a Luncheon in Honor of Crown Prince Vong Savang of Laos.

November 9, 1967

Your Royal Highness, Mrs. Humphrey, Secretary and Mrs. Rusk, ladies and gentlemen:

We welcome His Royal Highness and his lovely lady as newcomers to our country. Mrs. Johnson and I are very pleased that you will be able to see something of America and its people in the few days that you will be in our land.

I know, of course, of your interest in sports and that you are to attend one of our football games. We all enjoy college football in this country. It is a great spectacle, but I am not sure that it gives an accurate picture of what America is really like.

I was observing to the Secretary of State earlier in the day what Knute Rockne was supposed to have said one time, when four or five of his best football stars were not performing as he had expected. He dashed out on the field and said, "If you four fellows would get out of the way, the other six will go over for a touchdown."

Sometimes after I read some of the Senate debates, I think of Rockne's story about football.

But when you go out to one of our football

games, Your Royal Highness, and you see our best educated boys spending the entire afternoon or evening knocking each other down, while thousands and thousands are there in the stadium cheering, it hardly gives a picture of a peace-loving nation.

But I don't worry because I know there is a proverb in your country which says: "When one has heard, one should then see; and when one has seen, one should judge with his own heart."

Judge our people, then, Your Highness, with your heart, and if you do, I think you will find friends here.

America admires the steady progress that your nation is making. We applaud and support your people's struggle to win a better life. Last year the Mekong River flooded much of the rice in your land. This year drought has cut down your crops, as you were telling me earlier today. But man, and not nature, is the greater enemy in Laos.

For almost half of your entire lifetime, you have battled the invaders from North Vietnam. Some 40,000 of them, by the present estimates.

Yes, the struggle has been costly. You have paid a price not only in lives, but in other resources that are vital to your nation's future.

Your Prime Minister told the United Nations only a few days ago, and I quote him, "If the war in Laos is forgotten by the press at large, it nonetheless continues to ravage my country."

But your people have not waited for the end of war to begin the work of peace. I should like you to know, Your Royal Highness, neither have we.

In April 1965, speaking at the great Johns Hopkins University, and to the Nation by television, I explained why America fights today in Vietnam. I emphasized the final victory we all seek in Asia, the triumph that will open a new life for man, a brighter and a richer life than he has ever known before.

I spoke of the blessings that would flow to millions if we could, together, harness the wild Mekong. This mighty waterway, longer than the Mississippi River in our own country, is a real lifestream of Southeast Asia. Its waters have the power to build peaceful and prosperous nations in that area of the world. They could generate new hope for all of the people of Laos, Thailand and Cambodia, and South Vietnam and, yes, if they

were only willing, for the people of North Vietnam, too.

Since my Johns Hopkins address in 1965, sir, America has committed itself to build the dams that will harness this power for the benefit of your proud people. Like you, we fight and pray for the day that peace may come to that area of the world and our men can return to their homes here. It will be a day when all the nations of Southeast Asia channel the energies of war into the labors of love, into the miracles of joint achievement.

So, Your Royal Highness, this is the spirit of our people. I think you will find it everywhere you go—when you have heard, when you have seen, and when you have judged us with your own heart.

Ladies and gentlemen, I ask those of you who have come from throughout our land to meet His Royal Highness and his lovely lady here today to join me now in a toast to the father of our distinguished guest, His Majesty, the King of Laos.

NOTE: The President proposed the toast at 2:27 p.m. in the State Dining Room at the White House. In his opening words he referred to Crown Prince Vong Savang, Mrs. Hubert H. Humphrey, wife of the Vice President, and Secretary of State and Mrs. Dean Rusk.

As printed above, this item follows the text released by the White House Press Office.

481 Proclamation 3819, Thanksgiving Day, 1967.

November 9, 1967

By the President of the United States of America, a Proclamation

The first American tradition grew out of gratitude for survival.

It began—long before independence was a dream—with families responding to an even deeper human impulse. They had suffered the rigors of winter in a new world—and they had endured. They put aside their

plows and thanked God for the harvest's bounty.

Over the years, we have made Thanksgiving a unique national occasion. Thanking God for His goodness, we thank Him as well for the promise and the achievement of America.

Our reasons for gratitude are almost without number. We are grateful for the en-

duration of our government for one hundred and eighty years. We are grateful that the founding fathers planned so wisely for the generations that followed them. We are grateful for a material abundance beyond any mankind has ever known. In our land, the harvests have been good.

Much as we are grateful for these material and spiritual blessings, we are conscious, in this year, of special sorrows and disappointments. We are engaged in a painful conflict in Asia, which was not of our choosing, and in which we are involved in fidelity to a sacred promise to help a nation which has been the victim of aggression. We are proud of the spirit of our men who are risking their lives on Asian soil. We pray that their sacrifice will be redeemed in an honorable peace and the restoration of a land long torn by war.

We are grateful for the tremendous advances which have been made in our generation in social justice and in equality of opportunity, regardless of racial background. But we are saddened by the civil strife which has occurred in our great cities.

Recognizing the trials we have endured and are enduring, I have turned to the Thanksgiving Proclamation of President Abraham Lincoln in 1863. President Lincoln faced, with equal emphasis, both the blessings and the sorrows of the people.

He recommended to his fellow citizens that, "while offering up the ascriptions justly due to Him for such singular deliverances and blessings, they do also, with humble penitence for our national perverseness and disobedience, commend to His tender care all those who have become widows, orphans, mourners, or sufferers in the lamentable civil strife in which we are unavoidably engaged."

In a similar spirit I ask my fellow citizens to join their thankfulness with penitence and humility. Let us implore Almighty God that, to all our other blessings, He may add the blessings of wisdom and perseverance that will lead us to both peace and justice, in the family of nations and in our beloved homeland.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, LYNDON B. JOHNSON, President of the United States of America, in consonance with Section 6103 of Title 5 of the United States Code designating the fourth Thursday of November in each year as Thanksgiving Day, do hereby proclaim Thursday, November 23, 1967 as a day of national thanksgiving.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand this ninth day of November in the year of our Lord nineteen hundred and sixty-seven, and of the Independence of the United States of America the one hundred and ninety-second.

LYNDON B. JOHNSON

482 Statement by the President Upon Signing the Departments of State, Justice, and Commerce, the Judiciary, and Related Agencies Appropriation Act, 1968. *November 9, 1967*

WHEN I signed the Law Enforcement Assistance Act more than 2 years ago, I said:

"The control of crime is a major target of this administration. . . . I will not be satisfied until every woman and child in this

Nation can walk any street, enjoy any park, drive on any highway, and live in any community at any time of the day or night without fear of being harmed."

I was proud to sign that act. It strength-

ened the alliance of the Federal Government and America's local policemen in the fight against crime.

Before me is another measure that deals with crime—the fiscal 1968 appropriations bill for the Department of Justice.

It provides the funds for our Federal law enforcement activities and programs—the FBI, the Criminal Division of the Justice Department, our U.S. attorneys and marshals, and the Law Enforcement Assistance Act.

This bill underscores the importance of another urgent measure which I hope will be sent to me for signature—the Safe Streets and Crime Control Act I recommended last February.

The Safe Streets Act is the most comprehensive and powerful anticrime measure ever devised by the Federal Government. As part of a total strategy to improve law enforcement and the administration of justice, it will help our communities recruit better policemen, train them better, use them better, and arm them with better crime-fighting weapons.

If America were to send its Armed Forces into combat ill-equipped, underpaid, undertrained, and unappreciated, it would be a national scandal.

Yet, for far too long, we have accepted such conditions as a way of life for America's 420,000 policemen.

In their hands rest the lives and safety of 200 million Americans. But our policemen too often are ill-equipped. Too often they are underpaid, undertrained, and unappreciated.

Every day, around the clock, they risk their lives to protect us. They carry one of the most difficult and awesome responsibilities in our society.

America's policemen need their country's help. They deserve the respect and support

of every citizen. Above all, we must help them meet the challenge of crime.

We must act. Mere talk will not do. The robber and the racketeer are deaf to political sermons. So is the peddler of dope and dangerous drugs who preys on our young, enslaving their minds, damaging their bodies, and destroying their spirits.

Crime is primarily a local problem and law enforcement is a responsibility of local government. This point is fundamental. From the beginning of the Republic, the people have wisely rejected the idea of a national police force. The Government in Washington cannot walk a beat, patrol a neighborhood, guard a city.

The jurisdiction of the Federal Government is strictly limited by the Constitution to crimes such as counterfeiting, fraud against the Federal Government, espionage, and certain interstate offenses, including those by organized crime. It has no authority over the arsonist who burns a house or a burglar in a metropolitan suburb, or the man who rapes a young girl.

Nevertheless the Federal Government cannot be an indifferent spectator to the urgent needs for stronger local law enforcement.

These compelling needs have often outstripped the financial capacity of local governments. The Federal Government can and should help bridge the gap—not with words, but with resources. This is what the Safe Streets Act is all about. It will:

—Let us help our police get the best men, the best training, and the decent salaries they deserve.

—Let us help arm them with the patrol cars, radios, alarm boxes, street lights, detection equipment, and all the other modern tools they lack.

—Let us help build new crime laboratories.

—Let us help modernize the entire system of justice, from courts to correctional institutions.

—Let us help improve the quality of justice as well as the chances of young offenders to reject a life of crime.

The blueprint for all this assistance is in the hands of Congress. That design, drawn by America's most experienced criminologists, prosecutors, and police chiefs, is the Safe Streets Act.

Pass the Safe Streets Act and we can help arm and strengthen local law enforcement agencies and police departments in America.

Pass the gun control law and we can help local communities across the Nation keep weapons out of wrong hands. Contrary to the misrepresentations of those who actively

seek to defeat this vital legislation, it will not prevent hunters, sportsmen, and other responsible citizens with legitimate needs from obtaining a gun. The measure will, however, help protect our families and homes against those elements of society to whom a gun is an instrument of violence and terror.

Events will not wait. Neither must we.

NOTE: As enacted, the Departments of State, Justice, and Commerce, the Judiciary, and Related Agencies Appropriation Act, 1968, approved on November 8, 1967, is Public Law 90-133 (81 Stat. 410).

The Omnibus Crime Control and Safe Streets Act of 1968 was approved by the President on June 19, 1968 (Public Law 90-351, 82 Stat. 197).

For the President's statement upon signing the Law Enforcement Assistance Act of 1965, see 1965 volume, this series, Book II, Item 526.

483 Statement by the President on the Successful Launching of the First Saturn V Rocket. *November 9, 1967*

THIS MORNING, at exactly 7 a.m. eastern standard time, the whole world could see the awesome sight of the first launch of what is now the largest rocket ever flown. This launching symbolizes the power this Nation is harnessing for the peaceful ex-

ploration of space. The successful completion of today's flight has shown that we can launch and bring back safely to earth the spaceship that will take men to the moon. I have conveyed to our space team my congratulations for their splendid performance.

484 Remarks in New York City at the Jewish Labor Committee Dinner Honoring George Meany. *November 9, 1967*

Mr. Zimmerman, Mr. Meany, Secretary Wirtz, Senator Javits, Mr. Randolph, Mrs. Meir, my old friend—David Dubinsky, members of the AFL-CIO Executive Council, ladies and gentlemen:

I am delighted to be here tonight to join with the Jewish Labor Committee in honoring a great American. The fact that I am here bears out an old New York advertising

slogan: "You don't have to be Jewish to enjoy George Meany."

When Mr. Dubinsky had told me that he and George Meany were going to be here in the same room together tonight I naturally assumed it would be for a gin rummy game.

That game, you know, has been played for many years under very special rules. The really special thing is that George doesn't

know Dave's rules and Dave doesn't know George's rules.

Someone once called this contest "the oldest established, permanent, floating gin game in the world."

It has, in fact, been going on for almost 30 years in every convention site in America, wherever men who speak for labor have gathered. But one very important thing should be pointed out here tonight: Between gin sessions, American history has been remade—always to the benefit of all the American people.

George Meany has been busy remaking American history since his young manhood.

Some of you may remember what life was like in New York in those days when George Meany was a young man. It was in 1910—2 years after I was born—when Mike Meany's 16-year-old son George became a plumber's apprentice in the Bronx. Downtown that year—in the garment district—6-year-old children were working in the sweatshops, and when the workers asked for a day off every week, the bosses said: "If you don't come in on Sunday, don't come in on Monday."

I am glad to say that things are different now—and they are different in part because George Meany has fought the good fight. He has fought it in good company—he has fought it with a band of dedicated men and women across this country who knew that America could not become great unless its workers could live and labor in dignity. They were men like Mr. Dubinsky, Mr. Stulberg, Mr. Hillman, Mr. Rose, Bill Green, Phil Murray, Phil Randolph, John L. Lewis, and a number of others whom I don't have time to mention tonight.

These men fought and worked—and in time, their dreams came true:

—the minimum wage

—the 40-hour week

—the right to organize, the right to bargain or strike

—the child labor laws

—safer working conditions

—Medicare

—social security.

But there is more to the story—there is very much more.

By the time George Meany became president of the AFL in 1953, some critics were saying that the labor movement had gone soft. They said that it had lost its fighting spirit—that it had sold out for a few more dollars, 2 weeks of vacation, and a house in the suburbs.

George Meany had a different idea. He saw new battles to fight. He believed that what is good for America is good for American labor—and that is why we have come here to honor him tonight.

Tonight we can look back—although George Meany never looks back—but we can look back and we can count our victories. Tonight I can report to you, not about how labor has fared under George Meany's leadership—I think all of you know that—but what I want to report is how America has fared in a time when labor has put its shoulder to the work of social justice.

I have played some little part in these efforts. Together,

—We have fought for and we passed through the Congress of the United States and through the law of the land one civil rights bill, and a second civil rights bill, and a third civil rights bill. George Meany and the American labor movement backed every single one of them to the hilt every time.

—We fought for and we passed Medicare. George Meany was there for the battle—and he was there for the victory.

—We fought for and we passed the greatest series of education bills in history—36 in all—and George Meany's leadership helped that cause to triumph.

—We fought for and we launched a War on Poverty. When that war began, George Meany was already a five-star general.

Now, the struggle for progress and reform in America has never been easy. George Meany will testify to that. And I can tell you tonight that it is not easy going now.

On the one hand is the old coalition of standpatters and nay-sayers.

They never wanted to do anything. But this year they say they can't do it because of Vietnam. That is just pure bunk.

This crowd was against progress before Vietnam. They are against progress tonight and they will be against progress tomorrow. And they will be against it when the war is over and when it is nothing but a dim memory.

And far off at the other end of the political spectrum, there are those who say: "What America has built is rotten. Let's tear it apart."

I say they are wrong now. They will be wrong tomorrow.

I came to New York to tell you and to tell the country tonight that we can meet our commitments, and we can keep our word at home and abroad—and we will.

The world has lived through two remarkable decades since World War II. In those years, 200 million Americans and hundreds of millions of other men in other countries have found a measure of dignity, security, and freedom. Why? In great part, because this Nation has been willing to make—and to meet—commitments far from our shores.

Tonight as we meet here in peace and

safety our commitment to a small and distant country in Southeast Asia is being tested. And along with it, America itself is being tested on the anvil of war.

If we fail, we may forfeit our hope for world stability. We may risk a far more terrible war in the future because we didn't see this one through.

The same kinds of issues are at stake tonight in the Middle East.

The last thing I did before I left my office and kept my people waiting for 15 minutes was to review a series of messages that have great importance to the world in which we live.

There in the Middle East, we see the agony of men struggling toward peace amid the great danger of war hovering all around them. We see people who have been threatened by war—hot and cold—for more than 20 years. Peace—even meaningful negotiations—may seem remote where there is so much tension and where there is such ancient hostility.

But we know we must try for peace until it is established. We know that we must help make it possible for men and women to live together in dignity and in mutual respect. We know that failure in the Middle East can condemn the children of that region to endless—and to senseless—warfare.

What we want in that troubled region—America wants all over the world.

I believe that Americans can defend these precious principles abroad without relaxing and giving up on the job we need to do at home.

This year at home we won only partial funding of a model cities bill. But before long, with your support, we are not only going to have a model cities bill: We are going to have model cities—cities that are a credit to this Nation, cities where the races

can live together in friendship, where a life of poverty is not the inevitable fate of children who are born in it, where men and women can walk their streets without fear—day or night.

Americans want—and Americans should have—cities and a countryside where people drink clean water and where people breathe clean air; where children study in schools that are worthy of a prosperous and a hopeful land where our gross national income will be \$850 billion next year.

All of this will come—it will come in time—but it will never come easily. It will not come at all if we ever yield to the forces of division and the forces of paralyzing dissension. And let me tell you, my friends—tonight, those forces are abroad in this land at this hour. They are the enemies of constructive action. Men who want to move this Nation forward must join us in resisting them.

Our problems are great. But America's resources are much greater—and they include the great human and moral resources of the great American labor movement. We can, if we will, find the means to answer the most pressing human problems in America and the world tonight.

Let me give you just one example:

Last year, under the leadership of that great American, Willard Wirtz, the Labor Department contracted for the first of a series of programs to recruit and to prepare young men to qualify for apprenticeship training. That pilot project—begun right here in New York by the Taconic Foundation in partnership with the Workers Defense League—showed great success. It enabled very poor boys to qualify for apprentice slots in unions, and it worked—and it worked because New York union officials helped to make it work.

Earlier this year, on the basis of the New York story, 10 new apprenticeship training

programs were launched in 10 other cities scattered all over America.

Tonight, I came here to tell you that we are moving forward still more. Within the next few days six more cities are going to have these programs—in Dayton, Oklahoma City, Tulsa, Denver, Milwaukee, and Atlanta.

Broadening the horizons of opportunity has always been a matter of great concern for the man whom you honor so wisely tonight, George Meany. He understands that America's most urgent problems are also the union's most urgent problems. Civil rights, the rights of the poor, the rights of the consumers, the rights of citizens to a pure and safe environment—all of these constitute the human rights of human beings and of our fellow Americans. We came here to honor this great champion of human rights this evening.

In the morning a little after 7 o'clock I will take off for a trip that will carry me to the aircraft carrier *Enterprise* out on the shores of California. I will visit the Marines, the Navy, the Army, the Coast Guard, and the Air Force before I come back on Sunday.

We will see the veterans who protect our freedom, tomorrow. But we came here tonight to see the veterans in civilian clothes who protected it for this century.

I am so happy to say that George Meany has realized all along with most trade unionists that as we stand at the outer frontier of disorder in Southeast Asia, we stand also at the inner frontier of disorder in our cities.

This is not merely a question of fighting in Vietnam or not merely a question of policing our cities.

A leader is always impelled by a vision that is driven by an inner conviction that a new world can be built.

Thus, George Meany and the other pioneers of the great American labor move-

ment have never taken the time to relax in a record of past accomplishment.

They are not concerned very much with what has happened in the past two centuries. They are concerned with that century that is coming up that begins in 1976 and what happens in the next 100 years.

They are constantly driving the road forward into the uncharted wilderness:

—They are working to solve the novel problems of the world's great urban industrial society.

—A society of many peoples, a society of many religions, a society of many and varied dreams and hopes.

—A society of strong-minded free men and women who have time and time demonstrated—despite the recurring prophecies of disaster and the voices of the calamity howler, the critic, and the complainer—that their dedication to the principles of democratic life is stronger than their economic and social interests—stronger than their social and religious prejudices.

As I walked to my plane this evening I had a letter delivered to me from a friend of mine in another branch of the Government.

He said: "My dear Mr. President: The Lord should feel good about this Nation's achievements as exhibited this last week—

"One, two Negroes elected as mayors of two of our greatest cities;

"Two, the first Negro Justice of the United States Supreme Court politely and wisely questioning the Assistant Attorney General of Alabama who was arguing a segregation case before the Court;

"Three, just now the Negro Senator from the Commonwealth of Massachusetts moved the admission to the Bar of the Supreme Court of the United States of his friend, a white lawyer,

"And I know that when on October 21,

standing on the stage of Constitution Hall, Pablo Casals embraced a Negro girl who was a member of the fine Howard University Chorus the Lord must have smiled.

"Only a few years ago that stage was barred to Marian Anderson. I hope, Mr. President, you feel good deep down in your heart about helping to make all of this possible. I am sure history will recognize that part and that unique role in the great progress that mankind is making."

I feel deeply in the debt of the Jewish Committee for recognizing that role that this great leader of social justice has courageously carried on all these years throughout this country.

That is why I came here tonight at the end of a long hard day—and the beginning of another one—to say that much has been written about him, about his being tough. He tries to look that way sometimes, I think, when he is talking to me.

About how hard-boiled he is—well, he said of himself and of his trade one time: "that anybody who has any doubt of the ingenuity and the resourcefulness of a plumber never got a bill from one."

In adversity, the family always pulls a little closer together, and as the war clouds hover around us and when we seek peace throughout the world, we seek prosperity at home, and we have all the problems—of health, education, conservation, and human rights—I think it is good that we could be here and be in the same room together tonight.

You and I know George Meany. We know him pretty well. We know him better than those who think he is so tough and hard-boiled. He is a kind man. He is a warm man.

He is a thoughtful gentleman. I never made a note on anything he ever told me because he always told me what he meant and meant what he told me—and kept his commitments to the letter.

I may be telling some secrets to the men whom he negotiates with. But to his fellow workers in the labor movement, to his great friends, the Jewish Committee, I tell you no secret when I say that he is a soft touch when people's welfare is at stake.

He is a great labor leader. He is a greater American leader. And I feel a lot better because I took the time to come here tonight and to salute him.

NOTE: The President spoke at 8:57 p.m. at the Americana Hotel in New York City. In his opening words he referred to Charles Zimmerman, president of the Jewish Labor Committee and vice president of the International Ladies' Garment Work-

ers Union, George Meany, president of the AFL-CIO, Secretary of Labor W. Willard Wirtz, Senator Jacob K. Javits of New York, A. Philip Randolph, president of the Brotherhood of Sleeping Car Porters and honorary chairman of the June 1966 White House conference on civil rights, Golda Meir, former Foreign Minister of Israel, and David Dubinsky, president emeritus of the ILGWU. Later he referred to Louis Stulberg, president of the ILGWU, Sidney Hillman, former president of the Amalgamated Clothing Workers Union, Alex Rose, president of the Hatters Union, William Green, former president of the American Federation of Labor, Philip Murray, former president of the Congress of Industrial Organizations, and John L. Lewis, president emeritus of the United Mine Workers of America.

At the dinner Mr. Meany was awarded the Labor Human Rights Award by the National Trade Union Council for Human Rights.

485 The President's Veterans Day Tour of Military Installations. *November 10-11, 1967*

[1.] Remarks at Doughboy Stadium, Fort Benning, Georgia.

November 10, 1967

Secretary McNamara, General Johnson, General Wright, Congressman Brinkley, Congressman Pickle, ladies and gentlemen:

This morning I begin a journey and a tribute.

I will visit eight military installations over this Veterans Day weekend.

I bring to each a gift of this Nation's heart—our pride, our admiration, and our gratitude.

I will offer them in the name of the American people to the bravest of America's sons, daughters, and their families.

I go to honor each of the 6 million men and women of our armed services—and the 26 million veterans of this country and the millions of homes whose gifts they are to us all.

I think it is quite fitting that I begin my journey here at Fort Benning, for you are the beginning of so much that ends in glory

for your country and hope for every man.

It is here that so much of our hope for peace really begins. It is here that so many dreams of freedom are refreshed. It is here, in this vast arsenal of war, that soldier and family devote life and honor to ending war.

It is a purpose rare and wonderful in the history of nations. Never has mankind found so much to inspire in the midst of so much to fear. Never have men seen the equal of America's armies—men who march not for conquest, but with compassion—men whose courage and convictions command respect instead of fear.

Here is where it starts, in the history and the instruction of Fort Benning. Few posts can match the brightness of your traditions, or the greatness of your role in Vietnam today.

—Here, each week, 1,100 men train as combat infantrymen.

- Here, each day, 11,000 men, from buck private to career officer, receive special Vietnam training.
- Here, each year, 240 classes totaling 55,000 students graduate from the Infantry School. Two-thirds of them go to Vietnam.
- Every Army paratrooper takes his basic jump training here at Fort Benning.
- Hundreds of small-unit leaders are graduates of your special Ranger courses.
- America's first air mobile force trained here, the famous 1st Cavalry Division.
- Since your Army Training Center opened in 1965, it has equipped more than 111,000 soldiers to earn the compliment of that great General Westmoreland, who said of them: "They are the best trained soldiers in the world." And I agree with him. The enemy in Vietnam has learned to agree with him.

Benning is a cradle, a college, and a crossroads. But it is more than that.

Benning is a family.

Here and nearby live more than 1,200 families of officers and men who fight at this hour in Vietnam. There are 3,400 military families on this post, and another 8,800 in Columbus and neighboring communities. Another 10,000 families belong to civilians who work here.

For these Americans, Vietnam is no academic question. It is not a topic for cocktail parties, office arguments, or debate from the comfort of some distant sidelines.

These Americans here do not live on the sidelines. Their lives are tied by flesh and blood to Vietnam. Talk does not come cheap for them. The cost of duty is too cruel. The price of patriotism comes too high.

Last night in my office, I read of one of

your local families who paid the tragic cost only days ago. Lieutenant Colonel Arthur Stigall, the commander of a First Infantry Division battalion, gave his life in Vietnam. He was a much decorated veteran of 3 years. His wife Marguerite, and daughter Susan, live on Scott Street in Columbus.

If I single out this family today, it is to pay them a tribute in which many of their friends and other local families must sadly share. Many of them are here with us. Others are near in the neighboring communities—whole blocks of homes in some communities—where a loved one is gone or a son is given.

Grief walks with gallantry here. The eyes of the widows and the children show it. The eyes of the fathers and the mothers, and the brothers and the sisters, know it.

And yet the people here walk tall and proud. You can feel the warmth of pride that binds them together. They stand together, giving and taking strength, sharing gallantry and grief, closing ranks in common love of country, and in loyalty to their Nation's cause.

It is a humble task to thank you at the best of times. I have come here today to thank you and to bless you, so that you might take away some comfort for the worst of times.

Fort Benning is many things, among them a military shrine and monument. But the very best that can be said of you, I think, is this: The Benning family displays to all the world the very best of the American family.

And all our American families share the pride and the gratitude that I bring to you. Each of our homes can look into your hearts, through your windows, and find inspiration, stimulation, and pride in your unity. That is the rock of your resolve.

You are a community of courage. You are

a family of patriots. That must be our Nation's proud claim, too—if we are to win the peace that will declare “no life was spent in vain.”

There is a phrase from our history that says it well. “The cement of this Union is the heartblood of every American.”

Thomas Jefferson saw it truly. His faith has long been true of us. All that we have as a Nation we owe to our unity as a people. All that we work for now—the worth of all of our dreams and our sacrifices—hangs on how much unity we bring to the battleground where our beliefs and our future are at test.

At this moment in Vietnam, thousands of young Americans march with Jefferson. Tragically, but selflessly, they spill their “heart’s blood” to defend again the vital interests of our Union—and of that wider union of free men who want only to live and to build in peace.

That peace will come more quickly when the enemy of freedom finds no crack in our courage—and no split in our resolve—and no encouragement to prolong his war in the shortness of our patience or the sharpness of our tongues.

The enemy probes our unity now. But it is he who will shatter against it. He will fail because he will hear the answer that America’s citizens and citizen soldiers have always given to aggression.

I want to show you an answer.

Here is a soldier’s letter that came to me this week from Vietnam. It was written in a

foxhole—on the sides of a combat ration box—ham and lima beans—B-2 unit.

Let me read a part of it to you.

“We are in the infantry. We are now in a foxhole at Binh Son and the water in this foxhole isn’t too dry. We are not crying about being out here, so there is no reason for the people in the United States to worry about the war. We’re doing the fighting, not them. . . . We’re going to win this war if it takes our lives to do it.”

I believe them. I believe in you.

I wanted to share this letter with you because it comes from the infantryman—the ordinary but the always extraordinary “dog-face” who knows that Fort Benning is the Home of the Infantry—and the infantry is the Queen of the Battle.

And so you will always be the Home of the Brave.

I will travel on this weekend with that thought to lift my heart. And I will leave with you a pledge.

Your bravery will be rewarded.

As it is here that we find the beginning of peace, it will be here that we will celebrate the end of war.

God grant that we may share in that blessed day soon.

Thank all of you so much.

NOTE: The President spoke at 10:40 a.m. In his opening words he referred to Secretary of Defense Robert S. McNamara, Gen. Harold K. Johnson, Army Chief of Staff, Maj. Gen. John M. Wright, Jr., Commander of Fort Benning, Representative Jack Brinkley of Georgia, and Representative J. J. Pickle of Texas.

[2.] Remarks at El Toro Marine Corps Air Station, Santa Ana, California.

November 10, 1967

Secretary McNamara, Admiral Moorer, General Thrash, General Quilter, Congressman Hanna, Congressman Pickle, Marines,

families of Marines, my fellow Americans:

This is a big day for the Marines all around the world.

I came out here to express for the people of this country our heartfelt thanks for your 192 years of gallant service to your country.

I have always been proud of the Marines. I will be prouder still next month when one becomes a member of my family.

But I don't have to wait until next month to share the pride we all feel in the Marine Corps on this 192d birthday.

All my life I have heard the phrase: "The Marines have landed and the situation is well in hand."

Today at the White House we know what that means.

The U.S. Marine Corps is older than the Declaration of Independence, and it may well be it was the existence of your Corps that gave us the courage to make that Declaration.

From Tripoli to Tarawa, from the Chosen Reservoir to Con Thien, Marines have earned a reputation that is unsurpassed among the world's fighting forces.

On this field today are men whom I have just seen, who have just returned from Vietnam, many of them wounded. But they have returned here and brought that same courage

to the flight line of freedom. On this field today are some of the men who will follow them.

There are many times when a President feels inadequate and never more so than when he looks into the faces of men—men who, by their courage, make possible everything that we possess in America.

Without your heroism, without your skill, without your dedication and your willingness to sacrifice, there would be no freedom, no security in America, and no hope for peace in the world.

Tomorrow—Veterans Day—America will pay tribute to all our Armed Forces. But today—this day—belongs especially and only to the Marines.

You have the highest esteem of your Commander in Chief, and you have the deepest gratitude of all good Americans.

Thank you very much.

NOTE: The President spoke at 12:43 p.m. In his opening words he referred to Secretary of Defense Robert S. McNamara, Adm. Thomas H. Moorer, Chief of Naval Operations, Gen. William G. Thrash, Commander of El Toro Marine Corps Air Station, Gen. Charles J. Quilter, Commander of the Third Marine Air Wing, Representative Richard T. Hanna of California, and Representative J. J. Pickle of Texas.

[3.] Remarks at Camp Pendleton, California. November 10, 1967

Secretary McNamara, Admiral Moorer, Major General Lewis Fields, Major General Wood Kyle, Congressman Dick Hanna, Congressman Pickle, ladies and gentlemen:

I have come here today from across the country for two very important reasons: to pay tribute to the United States Marine Corps on its birthday and to salute the Marines around the world who are following 192 years of valor.

It is no secret that I like "can-do" people. And I know that this is a place to find them—

from your General Fields to your newest "boot."

It is also no secret that we have had an invasion of Marines in our own White House family.

As one who has had glimpses of a Marine pursuing his objective for the past few months—I am impressed!

In boot camp, you learned the history of the Marine Corps—or else.

I've never had the stimulating experience of a boot camp.

But, as a freshman Congressman on the Naval Affairs Committee, I learned that the Marine Corps was born in Philadelphia, November 10, 1775.

The Continental Congress was in session and the Maritime Committee, with John Adams as Chairman—authorized two battalions of Continental Marines.

Two hundred and eighty-six Marines signed up on the spot.

They got the authorization, they organized the Corps, and they were fighting the American Revolution 6 months later.

I cannot resist pointing out that some things moved faster in those days.

Our Founding Fathers knew then what is still so true today. Freedom has never come to any people as a gift. It has never been held by any people who were not able and willing to defend it.

The Marine Corps does defend it. The Corps was born as a commitment to freedom. And it has honored that commitment every single hour of its existence. It honors it today—and thank God!

Here at Pendleton, men know what the commitment to freedom must sometimes cost. They've learned it the hard way—they've learned it in battles for freedom.

Here, too, are men poised to battle in Vietnam. And they will go into battle with the best training and the best arms we can give them. They will continue to get them as long as I am your Commander in Chief.

The road we travel in Vietnam to an honorable peace is not an easy road.

America is no stranger on the road to freedom and neither is the United States Marine Corps. Marines know, as a wise man once said, that "a people who are willing to give their lives . . . for their liberty, save both."

Some things do not change. Courage does not. Honor does not.

But the natures of wars change with technology—with the birth of new nations—with new tactics of new enemies.

But marines have always changed with change—to win. They won in Korea when winning meant holding—not conquering.

Marines are winning in Vietnam—where the only victory we seek is to keep a small country out of the hands of aggressors.

You and I know that it is harder and tougher to ask for and to achieve a restrained and limited victory. One could surrender—or start world war III—and could do either without much help or much brains.

But the hard course and the true course—the only course—is the one we must steer between surrender and annihilation.

That is where honor lies. That is where freedom waits. That is where we find our only hope for true peace in the world for ourselves and for our children.

Let us, then, seek not just the end of battle in Vietnam. Let us seek the beginning of genuine and universal peace in the world.

In Vietnam today Marines in the Demilitarized Zone lay their lives on the line for that new beginning.

They are the point-men of a braver future. We here at home just cannot fail them. And we won't fail them.

Our servicemen are citizens first. And they have parents and wives and children.

We are not going to betray any of them. We will not let them come home to a land which has decayed while they were gone.

Our men in Vietnam are first-class fighters for freedom. We are not going to let them come home to a second-class country!

Notwithstanding all the frustrations and protests, we are going ahead to build the schools their children need and the homes their families must have and to provide the opportunities they are entitled to.

In this country a man leaving the service

has a right to get as much education as he wants. He has a right to a decent job and a decent home. He has a right to raise his family—not only with dignity, but with some of the joys and pleasures which freedom means.

We know that you will keep your commitment to us. I came here today to tell you

that we are going to keep our commitment to you!

NOTE: The President spoke at 2:07 p.m. In his opening words he referred to Secretary of Defense Robert S. McNamara, Adm. Thomas H. Moorer, Chief of Naval Operations, Maj. Gen. Lewis J. Fields, Commander of Camp Pendleton, Maj. Gen. Wood Kyle, Commander of the Fifth Marine Division, Representative Richard T. Hanna of California, and Representative J. J. Pickle of Texas.

[4.] Remarks to Wounded Veterans at the Naval Hospital, Camp Pendleton, California. *November 10, 1967*

I AM so glad that I had a chance on this anniversary of the Marine Corps, and just a few hours until Veterans Day, to come here and to visit with you.

All that we are and all that we hope to be in this country has been in your hands. You have dealt well with your obligations and your responsibilities.

We are so sorry that injuries have befallen you and suffering is yours, pain is with you, and that you have had to come back to recuperate. But we are so thankful that you have been spared.

We are deeply in your debt and in the debt of the thousands of men who have given their lives to make freedom secure and to make this country a better place to live in.

I hope all of you get the kind of treatment you deserve. You deserve the best.

I am proud of you and your country is proud of you, and we are all proud of our country. It's the best country in all the world and we want to keep it that way. Except for men like you, we wouldn't.

Thank you very much.

NOTE: The President spoke at 2:49 p.m.

[5.] Remarks at Sunrise Ceremonies on the Flight Deck of the U.S.S. *Enterprise*. *November 11, 1967*

Secretary McNamara, Admiral Moorer, Congressman Pickle, Captain Lee, officers and men of the U.S.S. "Enterprise":

This has been a busy and a very happy Veterans Day weekend for me.

I began it yesterday morning at Fort Benning, with a tribute to the Army. From there I went to El Toro and Camp Pendleton, to pay tribute to our Marines.

Last night I came home to my own service branch. It is good to be back in the Navy. My sea legs seem fine. But then, I get lots of

practice doing balancing acts on land.

If I am in good cheer this morning, it is because your spirit refreshes mine.

In return, I bring you a tribute from our grateful people—and it also concerns a dream.

It is one that has kept me awake on many other nights, when I stand the long watch of duty with you.

It is one that haunts the lonely nights for millions of military families—wives and mothers, fathers and brothers, sisters and

kin—all who miss or mourn a loved one like you.

The dream we share, of course, is peace.

How long, we ask, can it escape us? How many nights must we suffer the nightmare of war?

Here, on this proud and mighty ship, a man hears the answers ringing from the steel and shouting from the faces.

—“Not long.”

—“Not many more nights.”

—“Not while we stand as one family, and one Nation, united in one purpose.”

That is not a dream.

That is courage and conviction talking. That is the United States Navy speaking.

It is a call across the seas to Hanoi.

Now hear this: You force us to fight. But you have only to say the word for our quarrel to be buried beneath the waves.

That is the true voice of “The Big E.” She rides the waves as the world’s largest and most versatile ship of war. But from her launching to her last, she will be a ship of peace. You can all be proudest of that.

Your weapons and your wings are the swords and the shields of our freedom. The names of your planes—Phantom, Intruder, Hawkeye, Vigilante, Skyhawk—they are the watchwords of our liberty. They warn that brave men guard the gates against aggression.

And the name of your ship captures all of your purpose. You are pledged to a splendid and urgent enterprise—cleansing the skies of fear so that men may reach upward, safely and surely to grasp their destiny.

The tortured people of South Vietnam reach higher now because of your enterprise—14 months of combat duty on the Yankee Station—and strengthening yourselves now to go back in again.

You will go with America’s gratitude and

blessings. And you will carry my own and your Government’s pledge.

The peacemakers in Washington will match each enterprise of the guardians on Yankee Station.

Our statesmen will press the search for peace to the corners of our earth.

That meeting ground could even be the sea. Standing here, specks between the vastness of ocean and heaven, men might realize the ultimate smallness of their quarrels. They just might come to see the waste of war amidst this wealth of God and nature. Somehow they might realize the infinity of promise that stretches outward like the sea, could men only settle their differences and could they be free to explore it together.

It may only be a dream. But it could so easily be salvation. The United States follows the dream of peace, so we include even the seas in our search. For us, the wardroom could easily be a conference room. A neutral ship on a neutral sea would be as good a meetingplace as any.

So long as two would come to the meeting. So long as both met halfway. So long as one did not insist that the other walk on water and work a miracle alone.

I think of these things here this morning because your ship reminds me of another. Her name was the *Augusta*, an American cruiser that anchored off Newfoundland in August 1941. That, too, was a time dark with war. Still, two nations met in the *Augusta* wardroom to light a flame of hope. Two far-sighted leaders—President Franklin D. Roosevelt and Prime Minister Winston Churchill—declared a charter that said:

First, there shall be no territorial changes that do not accord with the freely expressed will of the people concerned.

Second, all nations must have the right to dwell in safety within their own boundaries,

living their lives in freedom from fear and want.

Nations can meet on the seas to repeat that miracle now. But if they meet, it must be to build on the two central and timeless principles of the Atlantic Charter.

As Americans, we believe these principles are still valid and vital. I can leave you with no stronger conviction. I can offer you no brighter hope.

I cannot thank you enough for all you leave me in the memories of this brief voyage. I wish each of you good luck, God's blessing, fair winds, and following seas.

Thank you very much.

NOTE: The President spoke at 7:11 a.m. In his opening words he referred to Secretary of Defense Robert S. McNamara, Adm. Thomas H. Moorer, Chief of Naval Operations, Representative J. J. Pickle of Texas, and Capt. Kent L. Lee, commander of the *Enterprise*.

[6.] Remarks at McConnell Air Force Base, Kansas. *November 11, 1967*

Thank you, General McConnell, Governor Docking, Secretary McNamara, Congressman Pickle, Colonel Cardenas, Mayor Vollmer, Major Baird, distinguished ladies and gentlemen:

I come here today as the President to speak for 200 million Americans on this Veterans Day. This is a message from their hearts and from mine.

I give you the deep gratitude and the pride this Nation feels in all of you.

That is the single reason that I have journeyed across America this weekend—to bring this country's recognition, praise, and pride to the men and women of America's Armed Forces.

It is a splendid reason. And I am glad to be here on this splendid day to give it voice.

This day belongs to you.

It belongs to the 6 million men and women who serve on active duty and in the Reserves. They are the guardians of our peace today.

It also belongs to our 26 million veterans who live throughout this Nation. They were the guardians of another day.

Those who wear the uniform today—and those who wore the uniform yesterday—

these are the millions to whom we owe a debt we can never repay. They are the ones I come here to thank today as the gallant defenders of freedom in this dangerous world in which we live.

This is the second splendid day for me. Yesterday and last night I brought this message of our Nation's heart

—to the Army at Fort Benning.

—to the Marines at El Toro and Camp Pendleton.

—to the Navy aboard the U.S.S. *Enterprise*.

But for all my travels, I am uplifted. I can tell you today, proudly, that this Nation is not complacent. It is refreshed each hour of each day by the courage and the conviction of its fighting men, of which you there in that row are a splendid example.

That—and only that—is what I have come here to say, at this vital center of America's airpower.

It is enough, for this Nation knows you well.

—We know you and your kind as the liberators of Europe.

—We know you as the pathfinders to peace over Berlin, over Japan, over the Philippines, Korea, and a thousand Pacific

islands. We were slow to react then. We almost waited too long. But I believe we have profited from that mistake.

And the men who fought communism and who fought totalitarianism then—and those who fight it today in Southeast Asia—are the same breed and they have the same purpose.

For all that long flight of courage—of sacrifice—of unbreakable faith—I come here to thank you.

Today, you men hold in your hands the power to destroy any adversary on this earth. And yet you are fighting a limited war with restraint, with skill, and with good judgment, and, I think, with compassion.

You show your skill—and your compassion—by the most precise pinpoint bombing.

Your ratio of planes lost is the lowest in the history of air warfare.

Your restraint in avoiding population centers is the greatest in the history of air warfare.

That kind of a record does you and does your Nation honor.

Together we will persevere in making the skies over Vietnam an arena which history will honor as the place where freedom found new life and peace was finally won.

And so I have come here today to thank you, and to share with you the vision of a brighter future which beckons us on.

One more stop for the Coast Guard this evening and I will have completed my visit on Marine Day and Armed Services Day with the leaders of the protectors of freedom in the world—the Army at Benning, the Marines at Pendleton, the Navy at the *Enterprise*, the airmen at McConnell, and the Coast Guard in Virginia a little later on.

I could not conclude that tour without saying to you that I believe the civilian leaders of you men—Secretary McNamara, the Secretary of Air, Secretary of the Army, and Secretary of the Navy—the Commandant of the Marines, and the Chiefs of Staff of the Air Force, the Army, and the Navy are as fine leaders as this Nation has ever produced and they, in turn, by precept and example, have inculcated in you men the finest ideals of this Nation.

As General Westmoreland said just a few days ago, you have sent to him in all of those services the best trained, the best equipped men to ever wear the uniform. And I believe he is right. I think in time every adversary that faces you will know that he is right.

As I conclude this trip today here in the presence of you men who have gone, who have seen, and who have returned, I join you in joining those who wear the little white flower in prayers that others will be spared and that the Good Lord will permit them to come back here with us someday.

To Secretary McNamara, especially, who has given such vision and such dedication, who is a much abused man, I want to say to him, his Secretaries, and his Chiefs of Staff, that all America and all those who love freedom everywhere will remember their names and will remember their service as we all remember yours.

Thank you very much.

NOTE: The President spoke at 1:45 p.m. In his opening words he referred to Gen. John P. McConnell, Air Force Chief of Staff, Governor Robert B. Docking of Kansas, Secretary of Defense Robert S. McNamara, Representative J. J. Pickle of Texas, Mayor Clarence E. Vollmer of Wichita, Col. Robert L. Cardenas, Commander of the 835th Tactical Air Division, and Maj. Robert Baird.

[7.] Remarks at Langley Air Force Base, Virginia. November 11, 1967

General Weede, Admiral Holmes, General Woolnough, General Disosway, Congressman Pickle, ladies and gentlemen:

A short journey but a long one is now ending for me. It began 33 hours and 5,000 miles ago. It has been rewarding and refreshing.

I return with a heart full of pride in the men and women of America's Armed Forces. I have seen them in splendid array on parade ground and on flight deck. I have visited some of those who bear the scars of battle, in their hospital wards.

And now, on the last lap of that journey, I have come here to decorate and to greet some of the gallant men and women of Langley Air Force Base.

I hope you will accept this visit as a symbol of the gratitude that the American people feel for your service—for the sacrifices that members of the Air Force and the other services are making for us around the world.

In 2 days I have visited the centers of this country's might. I have stood before tens of thousands of soldiers in battle dress and I have visited with our Marines who symbolize two centuries of valor. I have looked out to sea from a carrier whose deck is as long as a skyscraper is high. I have talked to men who are just home from battle—and I have looked men in the eye who are just leaving to fight.

Now, near the end of that long journey, I have come here to salute you and to offer you the thanks of a grateful Nation.

No man could stand where I have stood, no man could see what I have seen, and not

feel awe and admiration, and the deepest gratitude.

No enemy could know our armed might without respecting its meaning.

We are strong. No nation has ever been stronger. Our troops have courage. None ever have been braver or better trained, as General Westmoreland said just a few days ago.

Our spear is sharp. Our cause is just, and it is backed by strength: your strength.

Our cause will succeed.

What we seek in the world is safety, self-determination, and an end to aggression. We seek security not only for hundreds of millions of Europeans and Asians, but we seek security for our own hemisphere and for ourselves, whose destiny can never be isolated from the rest of the world.

Never, perhaps, have our problems been more grave, but never have our resources and our energy been greater.

Tonight let us take heart from that knowledge, and let us tell the rest of the world: Having blessings in abundance, we also have the will to match and the strength and the fortitude to last until peace comes to all peoples.

Thank you very much.

NOTE: The President spoke at 5:29 p.m. In his opening words he referred to Lt. Gen. Richard G. Weede, U.S. Marine Corps, Fleet Marine Force, Atlantic; Adm. Ephraim P. Holmes, Commander in Chief, Atlantic Fleet and Supreme Allied Commander, Atlantic; Gen. J. K. Woolnough, Commanding General, U.S. Continental Army Command; Gen. Gabriel P. Disosway, Commanding General, Tactical Air Command; and Representative J. J. Pickle of Texas.

[8.] Remarks at Yorktown Coast Guard Station, Virginia.
November 11, 1967

Secretary Hutchinson, Admiral Trimble, Congressman Downing, Admiral Smeder, Admiral Allen, Captain Kincaid, Secretary Sitton, ladies and gentlemen:

Yesterday morning at Fort Benning I began a journey and a tribute.

This evening at Yorktown my journey ends—but the tribute that I bring you is larger for what I have seen and for what I have experienced.

The gratitude that I bring you is greater for the miracles that I have witnessed.

I have seen a mighty and unshakable resolve. I have felt the courage and faith of 6 million men and women of America's armed services. And I have heard the echoes of honor that come from the performance of our 26 million American veterans in these United States.

Both these are not really miracles. They are the clay of our history. They are the fresh earth in which freedom is planted and in which liberty grows. They are the strong roots of our unbreakable faith and our unshakable purpose. These are ordinary things—as ordinary and as extraordinary as the love of freedom itself.

I have come here this evening to speak from my own heart—to tell you, to tell all of you, how much the heart of all America treasures you, your sacrifices, and your service.

It is fitting, I think, that I climax my journey this evening with the Coast Guard. The American people see and the American people applaud the works of the Coast Guard.

At this very moment, more than 30 Coast Guard vessels are patrolling the shores of South Vietnam. They have already cruised over 2 million miles. They have searched

more than a quarter of a million junks. They have destroyed more than 120 boats trying to smuggle arms to the enemy. They are preventing the aggressors from getting supplies and from getting reinforcements from the sea. In all of this they are contributing mightily to your Nation's fight for peace in the world.

Your achievements in Vietnam are no surprise to those who know the history of the Coast Guard. You are the watchmen of our shores. You are the guardians of our sealanes and all of those who sail them. And you are always among the first to answer the call of battle. The first Axis ship captured by the United States in the Second World War was captured by the Coast Guard. The Coast Guard took part in every single campaign of that war.

The official mission of your service is: "In service of country and humanity." Those words hang in every room of the Coast Guard Academy where your great leaders are trained.

You are true to that tradition today. In the midst of war, you are carrying on the vital works of peace.

Every Coast Guard boat on patrol in Vietnam has adopted an island for its own. The crews of those boats give the people of their adopted islands medical help, schoolbooks and buildings, and many other things that are so important to try to help those poor people have a decent way of life.

These selfless, constructive acts of friendship mean as much to our struggle as acts of valor in the face of fire.

You uphold the valor, the humanity, the love of freedom that has been the soul and spirit of America since America's birth as a nation. Tonight I share with you, and I

share with your wives and your families, a very great pride. With men like you to lead us, our Nation cannot fail, and freedom will prevail.

Thank you and good night.

NOTE: The President spoke at 6:19 p.m. In his opening words he referred to Under Secretary of Transportation Everett Hutchinson, Vice Adm. Paul E.

Trimble, Assistant Commandant, U.S. Coast Guard, Representative Thomas N. Downing of Virginia, Rear Adm. O. R. Smeder, Chief, Office of Research and Development, U.S. Coast Guard, Rear Adm. Edward C. Allen, Commander, 5th Coast Guard District, Capt. James W. Kincaid, Commanding Officer, Coast Guard Reserve Training Center, Yorktown, Va., and Paul L. Sitton, Deputy Under Secretary of Transportation.

486 Remarks of Welcome at the White House to Prime Minister Sato of Japan. November 14, 1967

Mr. Prime Minister and Mrs. Sato, Mr. Secretary of State, distinguished ladies and gentlemen:

Mr. Prime Minister, Mrs. Johnson and I are delighted to be able to welcome you here today to the garden of the White House to express to you our great pleasure that you have been able to come and visit with us. We appreciate very much the cooperation that has been extended by your Government and your people to our country, and the very close manner in which we have worked together for the last several years.

We have great pride in the fact that our Cabinet has paid periodic visits to your country and they have always been received with a very warm welcome. They feel that the visits have been quite productive.

The channels between us have always been open. The dialogue has been continuous. We, I think, both recognize the very great responsibilities that our governments have to the people of Asia. We have joined together in a good many enterprises for their general betterment.

I think the objectives of the American people and the Japanese people are very much the same.

First of all, we want peace in all the world, and particularly in that troubled part of the world where we do not have it now.

We want education for our children, health for our people, a small amount of recreation that can make us enjoy the good things of life, and by working closely together, we have moved in that direction.

You have been playing a major role in the new regional organizations in that part of the world that we think will bring Asia forward. We have reference particularly to the Asian Development Bank. We have great hopes for that enterprise.

We meet this morning as the spokesmen for two quite powerful nations in the world, but I hope two very responsible nations.

I believe that our destinies are very closely linked together by geography, by national interests, and by humanitarian concern.

We are glad we have good weather for you. We trust that it will last during our discussions.

We believe those discussions have much to recommend them. We hope they will be productive. We know this: that we will certainly profit from your observations concerning your views of your own country in that part of the world in matters of mutual interest.

We hope you enjoy your stay here. We want it to be a happy one.

NOTE: The President spoke at 11:11 a.m. on the South Lawn at the White House where Prime Min-

ister Eisaku Sato of Japan was given a formal welcome with full military honors. In his opening words he also referred to Secretary of State Dean Rusk. The Prime Minister responded as follows:

Mr. President, Mrs. Johnson, Mr. Secretary of State, distinguished guests, ladies and gentlemen:

I recall it was just 3 years ago that you greeted us most warmly here at the White House. I have come again to Washington, this time with my wife. We are most grateful for the cordial welcome you have accorded us today.

As on my previous visit I have come again to your country representing the Government and people of Japan, an ally closely bound by ties of friendship with the United States.

I look forward to having frank talks with you, Mr. President, on matters of common concern to our two countries.

I wish to express my deep respect to you, Mr. President, for the great efforts being made by the United States under your able leadership to bring peace and stability to the world, particularly in Asia at this moment.

The basic purposes of our foreign policy are the safeguarding of freedom and a dedication to peace.

There have been many developments in Asia since my previous visit here 3 years ago. Some have been desirable and encouraging while others have been causing deep concern.

But I am firmly convinced that as long as we face these changes with wisdom and courage, with the common objective of safeguarding freedom and peace, the road to stability and prosperity in Asia will be opened before us.

The need for cooperation between our two countries based on mutual trust and understanding has never been greater than it is today for the future of Asia and, indeed, for the entire world. Therefore, Mr. President, I look forward to frank discussions with you on problems between our two countries with the view to seeking an adjustment and expansion of our basic national interests.

It will not be our two countries alone, but all of Asia I am sure, who will benefit from close relations of mutual trust between Japan and the United States.

Thank you.

487 Toasts of the President and Prime Minister Sato of Japan.

November 14, 1967

Mr. Prime Minister, Mrs. Sato, Mr. Vice President and Mrs. Humphrey, Your Excellencies, distinguished guests, ladies and gentlemen:

Tonight we open our hearts and our home to two friends from a great neighbor of the Pacific.

The first Japanese mission to America arrived here more than a century ago—at a time of great conflict and discord in the United States.

Civil war threatened. A fierce election raged. In February of 1860, a candidate whom they called “the prairie statesman” closed a speech in New York with a call for national courage.

“Let us not be frightened from our duty,” said Abraham Lincoln, “by menaces of destruction to the Government, nor of dungeons to ourselves. Let us have faith that

right makes might, and . . . let us . . . dare to do our duty as we understand it.”

In that speech—and really in all of his life—Abraham Lincoln gave us a faith that no time or crisis can ever kill. It took time and a great deal of patience but Lincoln won peace at home and saved the Union. It is taking time and patience today to try to win peace in the world. But it will be won if we have the faith to uphold Lincoln’s first principle.

All men must know what it is to be emancipated: to be emancipated from hunger, from sickness, from want, and from fear of aggression.

The hope that Asia will come to know this freedom, Mr. Prime Minister, is much stronger today than it was when you last came here to see us. In great part the nations of Asia are now beginning to realize the im-

portance of working together to try to develop that part of the world.

You said this morning here when you spoke in the White House Garden that the need for us to work together to that end has never before been greater. We must look beyond the dangers that we all face in Asia now, to the day when our trust in each other—when our common sense of responsibility to all humankind—will finally open the road to peace, to stability, and to prosperity for all humanity.

America welcomes a partnership in responsibility. It is good to go forward knowing that as we share an ocean, Mr. Prime Minister, we also share a duty.

We know that that road is not going to be an easy one. The road of responsibility really never is easy. But let us, Mr. Prime Minister, take courage from Lincoln's words, when he said to his Cabinet in that other tragic period:

"I am here, I must do the best I can, and bear the responsibility of taking the course which I feel I ought to take."

Ladies and gentlemen, please join me in a toast to the partner of our hopes—Japan and His Imperial Majesty, the Emperor.

NOTE: The President proposed the toast at 10:11 p.m. at a dinner in the State Dining Room at the White House. In his opening words he referred to Prime Minister Eisaku Sato and Mrs. Sato and to Vice President Hubert H. Humphrey and Mrs. Humphrey. As printed this item follows the text released by the White House Press Office.

The Prime Minister responded as follows:

Mr. President, Mrs. Johnson, Vice President Humphrey, Mrs. Humphrey, distinguished guests, ladies and gentlemen:

I wish to thank you, Mr. President, from the bottom of my heart for this extremely cordial and warm reception accorded to us at this splendid dinner tonight. My wife and I are especially grateful for the thoughtful and kind hospitality of our gracious hostess, Mrs. Johnson.

Almost 3 years have passed since I last visited your country shortly after I had become Prime Minister. On that occasion, the President and Mrs.

Johnson welcomed us here at the White House at a dinner such as this one tonight.

I also had the opportunity during that visit to have frank talks with the President. Happily, in the years that have followed, the ties of cooperation between our two countries have been greatly strengthened. Especially in Asia a trend toward greater economic development and cooperation has made itself evident, built around the joint efforts and collaboration of our two countries. Thus I believe a new and fruitful era is opening before us.

Japan's basic position is to seek its own security and development within the framework of peace and prosperity of the entire world and especially toward Asia. From this stems our constant hope that the relations between our two countries will grow even closer and become more rewarding so that we can cope more effectively with the changing situation in Asia and in the rest of the world.

Our two countries are partners which share common goals in international society.

I firmly believe, Mr. President, that my talks with you this morning were most beneficial to both of us. I also believe that from a long range point of view our frank exchange of views will help to place the relations between our two countries on a much more secure and lasting peace.

I wish to express my profound respect and admiration to you, Mr. President, for your firm determination and your untiring efforts in seeking the establishment of stability and peace with justice in the world.

As head of government myself, I am keenly aware that the position of a leader is often a lonely one and often filled with tribulations and hardships. However, it is most heartening and encouraging that the people of the United States, true to the principles of democracy, are carrying out their responsibilities as a great nation in the Pacific region under your able leadership.

Since this past summer I have made a series of visits to the countries of Asia and the Southwest Pacific. Through these visits I have discovered how highly the peoples of this region appreciate and regard the efforts of the President and the people of the United States.

Recognizing that the common goal of our two countries is the attainment of peace and prosperity in the world and especially in Asia, it is my earnest hope that mutual cooperation between us in all fields of endeavor will be further developed and strengthened in the years ahead.

Ladies and gentlemen, I ask you now to join me in a toast to the good health of the President and Mrs. Johnson and to the continuing progress of the United States of America.

488 Message to the Congress Transmitting Report on United States Participation in the United Nations, 1966. *November 15, 1967*

To the Congress of the United States:

I am pleased to transmit the annual report on United States Participation in the United Nations for the calendar year 1966.

This report documents our continuing support for the United Nations, and our efforts to help it move toward the lofty goals set forth in its Charter.

Its pages reflect encouraging progress in the effort to further international peace and security, economic and social progress, human rights, and the rule of law among nations. They also reveal some discouraging setbacks.

One outstanding accomplishment during 1966 was the successful negotiation of the Outer Space Treaty, which bans weapons of mass destruction from space and calls for peaceful cooperation in its exploration and use. By unanimous vote, the General Assembly commended the Treaty and urged all nations to adhere to it.

Not all progress made by the U.N. was dramatic, or widely reported. Within the U.N. system—as elsewhere—disputes and crises make headlines, while the quiet works of peace go largely unnoted. Yet, day by day, in the capitals of more than a hundred nations and in thousands of villages around the world, U.N. representatives work with governments and peoples to carry on man's endless struggle against ignorance, hunger and disease. About 80 percent of the U.N.'s resources—not including those of international financing institutions—are used to promote economic and social development.

To improve these efforts, two particular U.N. activities during 1966 deserve special attention:

—The United Nations Development Pro-

gram completed its first year of operation. Merging two previously separate agencies, the new organization is designed to provide a more uniform and effective U.N. program of economic assistance. It is becoming one of the key organizations for multilateral assistance.

—The General Assembly approved the charter of the U.N. Industrial Development Organization, which will help new nations create industries best suited to their development needs.

The General Assembly adopted two covenants to protect basic rights of mankind. One pertained to civil and political rights, the other to economic, social and cultural rights. Their passage completed a task which the United Nations set for itself in 1948 with its Universal Declaration of Human Rights.

In addition, Ambassador Goldberg signed, on behalf of the United States, the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination. Our signature reflects this Government's commitment to promote the cause of human rights and the end of racial discrimination.

Race repression still exists, however; and during 1966 the United Nations was intensively concerned with its manifestation in Southern Africa.

The United States proposed and supported measures designed to deal with the problem realistically, peacefully and with concern for the provisions of the United Nations Charter.

We endorsed the limited economic sanctions invoked by the Security Council against the rebel regime in Southern Rhodesia. This was an effort to deal in moderate but responsible fashion with an emerging threat to the peace in the region.

It is this Government's hope that the cumulative effect of the sanctions—and of the aroused international opinion which produced them—will persuade the Rhodesian regime to return to constitutional rule.

The United States also supported responsible efforts to enable the people of the former Mandated Territory of South-West Africa to advance toward self-determination and freedom from race discrimination.

We did not, however, join in extreme proposals which we considered unrealistic and consequently harmful to the United Nations and the achievement of its human rights goals.

One great disappointment during the year was the failure to find a peaceful solution to the war in Vietnam.

The United States sought unsuccessfully to obtain action on the problem in the Security Council. It persistently encouraged the Secretary-General and member states to do what they could to bring about negotiations.

Those efforts have never abated. This nation continues to search for an honorable settlement in Vietnam. It continues to hope that the United Nations will make its contribution toward such a settlement.

Another setback was the failure to prevent the violence which later broke out in the Middle East.

Throughout 1966 there was evidence of increased tension in that part of the world. The Security Council met three times to consider terrorism and reprisal raids on Israel's borders. The U.S. maintained the position that the parties concerned should refrain from the use of violence, and instead use U.N. peacekeeping machinery to seek redress.

As the world was to learn later to its sorrow, counsels of moderation did not prevail.

Deep differences over the organization and financing of future peacekeeping operations

continue. The constitutional and financial deadlock which had severely hampered the Organization during 1964 and 1965 no longer stood in the way of day-to-day operations, but little headway was made in settling financial problems for the future. The United States endeavored to seek agreement—and will continue to, for fundamental issues of peace are clearly involved.

On other financial matters, the U.N. made greater progress. In March, I directed the Secretary of State to help the Organization achieve the greatest possible efficiency in the planning and operation of its programs. Pointing out that the United States is the largest single contributor to U.N. programs, I said in that directive:

"If we are to be a constructive influence in helping to strengthen the international agencies so they can meet essential new needs, we must apply to them the same rigorous standards of program performance and budget review that we do to our own Federal programs."

In line with this objective, the General Assembly approved recommendations to introduce a more effective use of funds and better coordination into its operation.

Our national interest and the high ideals of our tradition combine in American support of the United Nations.

Like other U.N. members, we seek to advance our own interests in this international forum.

But using the processes of persuasion, we also seek to foster that wide community of interest among nations which is man's best hope of establishing peace with honor and progress with justice.

We shall continue that search in the years ahead.

LYNDON B. JOHNSON

The White House

November 15, 1967

NOTE: The report is entitled "U.S. Participation in the UN, Report by the President to the Congress

for the Year 1966" (Government Printing Office, 330 pp.).

489 Statement by the President Upon Signing the Foreign Assistance Act of 1967. *November 15, 1967*

I HAVE signed the Foreign Assistance Act of 1967.

This act reaffirms the basic principles which have guided America's foreign economic policy for two decades. It proclaims our readiness to help those who help themselves in mankind's unrelenting struggle against poverty, ignorance, and disease.

Foreign assistance represents our hopes for the world our children will inherit. It gives meaning to the pledges of four Presidents and 10 Congresses that the United States will help to provide the margin of hope that nourishes the poverty-stricken millions around the world for whom change is not a matter of choice but of necessity.

I regret to say that the Foreign Assistance Act of 1967 reduces the margin of hope to the danger point.

The legislation I proposed in February was austere, yet consistent with responsible pursuit of our interests abroad. It represented the combined judgment of the President, the Secretary of State, and other senior officers of the Government. It was below the request of any previous year.

The Congress has now lowered even this request by almost \$400 million, and further substantial appropriation reductions have been proposed which threaten to reduce the program by a third.

I know that this results from consideration by many thoughtful men. I know too that there are many other pressing claims on our resources. There is no absolute in these matters. Each man must make his own assessment of the consequences.

I respect the judgment of the Congress. But I would be remiss in my duty if I failed to state my own conviction. I believe the money cuts and other restrictions in this act will seriously inhibit this Government's effort to assure and enlarge the security of the free world. For 20 years we have recognized the link between that security and our own. We should not lose sight of it now.

Nor do I accept the argument that we can afford no more. If we must distribute thousands of rifles to our Armed Forces abroad, we can afford to distribute 15 million textbooks, as the AID program did last year. If we can build thousands of barracks, we can build 25,000 classrooms, as the AID program did last year. If we can train thousands of soldiers, we can train 120,000 teachers as the AID program did last year. If we can protect almost a billion people in free Asia from the ravages of aggression, we can vaccinate 100 million people against the ravages of smallpox, as the AID program did last year.

These programs are not luxuries to be dispensed with when the going gets tough. They are the lifeblood of freedom in the world—the constructive steps which give meaning to the hope of all free men that hard work can transform struggle and privation into peace and plenty.

The lesson of history is that a community of independent and prosperous nations is the best long-term guaranty of a secure America in a peaceful world.

This is the goal of the foreign aid program. Its victories are quiet—a school opened, a

hospital equipped, a farm made productive, and, ultimately, a nation built.

This is not the stuff of headlines, but it is the way to peace. These are the returns the taxpayer receives on his investment in foreign aid. It is a long-term business. It is often frustrating. The reward of success is enor-

mous—and the penalty of failure is disaster.

I urge each Member of Congress to search his own mind and his own heart before he joins in any effort to erode these vital programs still further.

NOTE: As enacted, the bill (S. 1872), approved November 14, 1967, is Public Law 90-137 (81 Stat. 445).

490 Remarks Delivered by Telephone to a Joint Convention of Education Leaders. *November 15, 1967*

Doctor Cornette, Doctor Jensen, college presidents and leaders of higher education:

I want to thank you very much for your kind words and the citation you just referred to. I wish I could be there with you this morning, but I do have a busy day here. That is impossible.

Eric Hoffer said not long ago: "America is the only new thing in history." He touched on a theme that has been sounded by many observers, both native and foreign. But what really makes America new? That is what we want to find out. What makes America new? What makes America different?

The answers range far afield—and sometimes far astray: Skyscrapers are something different about America; supermarkets and superhighways; mass production and mass consumption; the melting pot; rock-and-roll; chewing gum and soft drinks.

But a better answer to what makes America new or what makes us different it seems to me, lies there with you this morning in your meeting; and in the purpose to which you leaders of our education are dedicated.

In England, 5 percent of the young men and women go to college. In Germany, 8 percent. In France, 16 percent. In the Soviet Union, 24 percent.

In America, 43 percent—compared to 5

percent in England, 8 in Germany, 16 in France, 24 in the Soviet Union. In the different America—43 percent and it is still climbing.

Seven percentage points it has climbed in the last 4 years of which I am very, very proud.

For the first time in history, for the first time anywhere on earth, here in this different America is a land where the young person can set his sights on college with the real hope and expectation of getting there.

There is a world of social change summed up in this one sentence: More than half of the young Americans in college today—more than half of them—are the sons and daughters of men who never went to college.

No slogan of democracy, no battle cry of freedom is more stirring than the American parent's simple statement which all of you have heard so many times: "I want my child to go to college."

The workingman wants his son to be a doctor; the salesman wants his daughter to be a teacher; the teacher wants her child to be a reporter; the housewife wants her boy to be President. She had better think twice about that one.

That rising ambition is one of the great stories of America today. In recent years the

Federal Government has made many major commitments—I am glad to say—to help fulfill those ambitions which I have just recounted:

—In the last 2 years, our Federal assistance to colleges and universities has doubled: from \$2 billion to \$4 billion in 2 years. The Federal budget was just a little over \$4 billion—the entire Federal budget—when I came to Washington in Herbert Hoover's administration. But it is up from \$2 billion to \$4 billion in the last 2 years.

—Federal programs to help college students have increased by 1,000 percent—scholarships, loans, and work-study grants: from \$147 million in 1965—\$147 million 2 years ago—to \$1.5 billion this year—\$1.5 billion to help college students.

Our commitment, therefore, is reasonably clear. I said shortly after I took the oath of President that one of my first goals would be to see that every boy and girl in this country got all the education that he or she could take.

We want every young man and woman to have all the education they can absorb.

But that commitment goes with a very high price tag:

—For today, more than 5 million young people already are enrolled in colleges and universities.

—In 10 years, there are going to be twice that 5 million—or 10 million.

This is equivalent to increasing enrollments by 50 percent in every single one of our existing colleges and universities—increasing them by 50 percent in 10 years—and then establishing 1,000 new colleges with 2,500 students each.

Even as the students crowd into the colleges and universities, the cost of educating them is still growing.

In these days in Washington, that is one thing that is giving us a lot of trouble: the increased costs of the things we are doing.

By 1975, unless we can ease this financial pinch some way, the annual gap—the gap I am speaking of, between income and expenses in higher education, will be as much as \$9 billion.

Yet, as we weigh these costs, we will still hear ringing in our ears all the time the demand of the American parent: "I want my child to go to college."

Then I think, as leaders, you and I must ask ourselves, "What kind of a college do I want my child to go to?"

Even if we meet the challenge of quantity, what about quality?

Will that child be taught by an experienced qualified professor—or by an untrained assistant?

Will most of the professors be Ph. D.'s—or only a minority that have that training?

Will college offer a challenge to the student—or will it simply be a way to pass the time while waiting to grow up?

The decisions must come first from you who are leaders of higher education. You must do the planning and the deciding. And that is one reason why I want to talk to you so much today.

College leaders must decide how to use resources more wisely. And that decision may—and I think will—upset some of the cherished old traditions.

Therefore as one who wants our era to be remembered as the education era, this morning I would urge you education leaders to:

One, experiment with new ways to extend the reach of the teacher without short changing the student.

If this Congress does nothing else but pass the public television bill and if we can concentrate in this country and around the world

the interests of educators in educational television, there will not only be reform but there will be real revolution in education.

Again, I think you ought to seek more support from private sources—and here I would say especially business because business benefits so directly from higher education; and the better the education generally the better the profits.

Second, we talk a lot about States' rights. Now, this is a right and an obligation as well. The States must make some hard—and courageous—decisions. They don't like to make them. But they must make them.

In the last 10 years, the Federal share of total spending for education has already jumped from 16 percent to 24 percent—not quite doubled, but almost. But the share of support from State and local government has remained virtually unchanged and hasn't jumped a bit.

So some States and communities are carrying only a part of the burden that they must bear. The courage to tax for education should not be limited to lawmakers at the national level. It does take courage to tax.

You look at the polls on any fellow who recommends, who has enough courage to recommend that you do increase taxes in order to avoid inflation, and you will see what happens to that fellow if he takes the courage to recommend it.

A man more interested in his poll than he is in his people is not going to recommend the taxes for education.

So you must pick your leaders with courage and they must do what is right in the knowledge that ultimately the people will sustain them.

Finally, higher education in the next 10 years, I think, will call for decisions from the Federal Government—momentous decisions—decisions from the President and from the Congress.

We are already—I think in the last 4 years—committed to do our part and a great deal more than anyone ever felt we would be doing 4 years ago. But what will be the size and what will be the shape of the Federal commitment for the future?

Well, we are going to have to find answers to some of these difficult questions. And you are going to have to help us provide the leadership to find the answers and the resolutions to those answers.

First: How can the Federal Government best build on the existing programs we already have to help students pay their way, to help colleges build facilities, to help pay the bills for research and graduate education? That is one of the difficult questions.

The second one: How can we find better ways to develop excellence in higher education? Dr. Gardner, who is in my Cabinet, is constantly talking about developing excellence. I am saying if that is high on your agenda of difficult questions to be answered, how can you—you leaders of higher education—find better ways to develop excellence in higher education?

Third, and I think really quite important: How can we find ways to help colleges and universities with the basic costs of higher education?

The time to begin looking at these difficult questions is yesterday. It is now, not tomorrow. I hope that before you leave there today you will enlist as an active participant in trying to help us answer some of these difficult questions.

Just down the road in 1976—it will be 200 years from 1776—we will mark the 200th anniversary of our American Revolution.

I have just gone through historic Virginia. I don't know whether you read about my being at Yorktown or not. I am sure you observed I attended church Sunday.

But as I went through this revolutionary

country I was thinking about not the 200 years since 1776, but the next 100 years—the third century.

I am already asking some of America's most thoughtful men and women to draw up a blueprint for our third century—for the next 100 years—and this is going to be an important mammoth undertaking. I am going to ask them to give us a list of specific goals for the years to come—and an accounting of what they will cost.

So let us declare today three goals to be achieved before we even begin our third century in 1976:

By 1976, let us raise from half—from 50 percent—to two-thirds—66⅔ percent—the proportion of high school graduates who enter college. That is a goal we can reach; not just half of the high school graduates going to college, let us make a step and take on a program of seeing that two-thirds of them get to college.

By 1976, let us strike down the last financial barriers to higher education. Let us make it a national policy that you don't have to be born rich to acquire training in this country, to acquire educational resources and to get a college education.

Let the father of a child who is born in a poor cabin with a purple vine growing around the door have an opportunity to get a college education just as the son of America's richest philanthropist.

By 1976, let us do these things—without any decline in the quality, or as Dr. Gardner would say, in the excellence of higher education.

And let us say to each other today and to the Nation: We have only begun to show mankind how broad our vision is—and how far we plan to go.

So let us get answers to these difficult questions:

—How can the Government build on existing programs?

—How can we find better ways to develop excellence in higher education?

—How can we find ways to help colleges and universities with the costs of higher education?

And between now and 1976 let us raise from half to two-thirds the proportion of high school graduates who enter college.

Let us strike down the last financial barriers.

And let us do these things without any decline in the quality of higher education.

Those are goals worth embracing because as a leader in education—and as a leader in government in the early days of my State—one of our great men said that, "Education is the guardian genius of democracy. It is the only dictator that free men recognize and it is the only ruler that free men will accept."

So those of you who are the leaders in the educational field have some goals and have some objectives. I want you to work with me and I want to work with you, not to get another plaque or another award, but to get these goals that I have just outlined realized in the time allotted to us.

I am sorry I cannot be there with you today. I am seeing Ambassador Bunker and General Westmoreland, and am having a lunch with Secretary Rusk and others.

I do have engagements that made that impossible. But I am happy that you are interested and I am grateful for your help.

Thank you very much.

NOTE: The President spoke at 11:55 a.m. from his office at the White House to the convention at Columbus, Ohio. In his opening words he referred to Dr. James P. Cornette, president of West Texas University and of the Association of State Colleges and Universities, and Dr. James H. Jensen, president of the National Association of State Universities and

Land Grant Colleges. During his remarks he referred to, among others, John W. Gardner, Secretary of Health, Education, and Welfare, Ellsworth Bunker, U.S. Ambassador to the Republic of Vietnam, and Gen. William C. Westmoreland, Commander, United States Military Assistance Command, Vietnam.

The citation to which the President referred was presented to him in his office at the White House on November 16 by Dr. Cornette, Dr. Jensen, and Dr. James McCrocklin, president of Southwest Texas State College. The text of the citation follows:

ASSOCIATION OF STATE COLLEGES AND UNIVERSITIES
and
NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF STATE UNIVERSITIES AND
LAND-GRANT COLLEGES

in joint session during their annual meetings in
Columbus, Ohio

November 15, 1967

present this citation to

PRESIDENT LYNDON BAINES JOHNSON

for his contributions to higher education

EDUCATED in the public schools of his native state of Texas and at Southwest Texas State College, this talented son of a family of modest financial circumstances rose to a position of outstanding na-

tional leadership in the legislative branch of our government and then to its highest executive position. LYNDON BAINES JOHNSON thus SYMBOLIZES the validity of one of our great national goals: To provide educational opportunity for all who may benefit from it, so that they may in turn make a maximum contribution to our society.

MORE THAN any other President, he has moved us toward this goal of educational opportunity for all by providing leadership in formulating the great ideals of the American people into specific and imaginative legislative proposals and cooperating with the Congress for their enactment.

The colleges and universities represented here today, in whose institutions are enrolled half the country's students in higher education, express to him their

GRATITUDE for his determined and unflagging devotion to the advancement of education and their

APPRECIATION of his efforts, which have gone far toward achieving our country's educational goals for the young people of today and of generations to come.

JAMES P. CORNETTE
President, Association of State
Colleges and Universities

JAMES H. JENSEN
President, National Association of State
Universities and Land-Grant Colleges

491 Joint Statement Following Discussions With Prime Minister Sato of Japan. *November 15, 1967*

I.

President Johnson and Prime Minister Sato met in Washington on November 14 and 15, 1967, to exchange views on the present international situation and on other matters of mutual interest to the United States and Japan.

II.

The President and the Prime Minister declared that the United States and Japan, guided by common democratic principles of individual dignity and personal freedom, will continue to cooperate closely with each other in efforts to bring about world peace and

prosperity. They took note of the importance of reinforcing the authority and role of the United Nations as a peace-keeping organization, of promoting arms control and a reduction of the arms race, including the early conclusion of a Non-Proliferation Treaty, as well as of rendering effective assistance to the developing countries, particularly those in Southeast Asia.

III.

The President and the Prime Minister exchanged frank views on the recent international situation, with particular emphasis on developments in the Far East. They noted the fact that Communist China is develop-

ing its nuclear arsenal and agreed on the importance of creating conditions wherein Asian nations would not be susceptible to threats from Communist China. The President and the Prime Minister also agreed that, while it is difficult to predict at present what external posture Communist China may eventually assume, it is essential for the free world countries to continue to cooperate among themselves to promote political stability and economic prosperity in the area. Looking toward an enduring peace in Asia, they further expressed the hope that Communist China would ultimately cast aside its present intransigent attitude and seek to live in peace and prosper alongside other nations in the international community.

IV.

The President reaffirmed the continuing United States determination to assist the South Vietnamese people in the defense of their freedom and independence. At the same time, he made it clear that he was prepared to enter into negotiations at any time to find a just and lasting solution to the conflict. The Prime Minister expressed support for the United States position of seeking a just and equitable settlement and reaffirmed Japan's determination to do all it can in the search for peace. He also expressed the view that reciprocal action should be expected of Hanoi for a cessation of the bombing of North Vietnam. The Prime Minister noted that he had found widespread support during his Southeast Asian trips for free world efforts to cope with Communist intervention and infiltration.

The President and the Prime Minister agreed that it is important that the new Government in South Vietnam continue its progress toward stable democratic institu-

tions and the social and economic betterment of its people.

V.

The President and the Prime Minister exchanged views frankly on the matter of security in the Far East including Japan. They declared it to be the fundamental policy of both countries to maintain firmly the Treaty of Mutual Cooperation and Security between the United States and Japan in order to ensure the security of Japan and the peace and security of the Far East. The President and the Prime Minister recognized that maintenance of peace and security rests not only upon military factors, but also upon political stability and economic development. The Prime Minister stated that Japan is prepared to make a positive contribution to the peace and stability of Asia in accordance with its capabilities. The President stated that such efforts on the part of Japan would be a highly valued contribution.

VI.

Referring to his recent visits to the Southeast Asian countries, the Prime Minister explained the efforts these nations are making in a spirit of self-help toward achievement of greater welfare and prosperity for their peoples, but noted their continued need for assistance in their efforts. The Prime Minister stated that it is the intention of the Government of Japan, in meeting this need, to continue its efforts to provide more effective bilateral and multilateral assistance to the Southeast Asian region particularly in the fields of agriculture, fisheries, transportation and communication, by increasing the amount of assistance and liberalizing its conditions. The Prime Minister described the encouraging trends which he had observed

particularly in Southeast Asia toward greater regional cooperation and he cited the promising prospects for the Asian Development Bank and its Special Funds. He further stated that it is the intention of the Government of Japan to make greater use of these institutions by assisting in further expanding their operations. Recognizing the need to strengthen economic assistance to the developing areas, particularly to the Southeast Asian countries, the President and the Prime Minister agreed to maintain closer consultation with each other in this field.

VII.

The President and the Prime Minister frankly discussed the Ryukyu and the Bonin Islands. The Prime Minister emphasized the strong desire of the Government and people of Japan for the return of administrative rights over the Ryukyu Islands to Japan and expressed his belief that an adequate solution should promptly be sought on the basis of mutual understanding and trust between the Governments and people of the two countries. He further emphasized that an agreement should be reached between the two governments within a few years on a date satisfactory to them for the reversion of these Islands. The President stated that he fully understands the desire of the Japanese people for the reversion of these Islands. At the same time, the President and the Prime Minister recognized that the United States military bases on these islands continue to play a vital role in assuring the security of Japan and other free nations in the Far East.

As a result of their discussion, the President and the Prime Minister agreed that the two Governments should keep under joint and continuous review the status of the Ryukyu Islands, guided by the aim of re-

turning administrative rights over these Islands to Japan and in the light of these discussions.

The President and the Prime Minister further agreed that, with a view toward minimizing the stresses which will arise at such time as administrative rights are restored to Japan, measures should be taken to identify further the Ryukyuan people and their institutions with Japan proper and to promote the economic and social welfare of the Ryukyuan residents. To this end, they agreed to establish in Naha an Advisory Committee to the High Commissioner of the Ryukyu Islands. The Governments of Japan and the United States of America and the Government of the Ryukyu Islands will each provide a representative and appropriate staff to the Committee. The Committee will be expected to develop recommendations which should lead to substantial movement toward removing the remaining economic and social barriers between the Ryukyu Islands and Japan proper. The existing United States-Japan Consultative Committee in Tokyo will be kept informed by the High Commissioner of the progress of the work of the Advisory Committee. It was also agreed that the functions of the Japanese Government Liaison Office would be expanded as necessary to permit consultations with the High Commissioner and the United States Civil Administration on matters of mutual interest.

The President and the Prime Minister also reviewed the status of the Bonin Islands and agreed that the mutual security interests of Japan and the United States could be accommodated within arrangements for the return of administration of these islands to Japan. They therefore agreed that the two Governments will enter immediately into consultations regarding the specific arrangements for accomplishing the early restoration of these

islands to Japan without detriment to the security of the area. These consultations will take into account the intention of the Government of Japan, expressed by the Prime Minister, gradually to assume much of the responsibility for defense of the area. The President and the Prime Minister agreed that the United States would retain under the terms of the Treaty of Mutual Cooperation and Security between the United States and Japan such military facilities and areas in the Bonin Islands as required in the mutual security of both countries.

The Prime Minister stated that the return of the administrative rights over the Bonin Islands would not only contribute to solidifying the ties of friendship between the two countries but would also help to reinforce the conviction of the Japanese people that the return of the administrative rights over the Ryukyu Islands will also be solved within the framework of mutual trust between the two countries.

VIII.

The President and the Prime Minister exchanged views on trade and economic policies following the successful conclusion of the Kennedy Round negotiations. They considered that a continued expansion of world trade would be in the best interests of both countries and pledged continued close cooperation in pursuit of this objective. They reaffirmed their support for policies which would lead to a freer flow of trade and further liberalization of other international transactions. They agreed that their two Governments should continue to consult closely regarding trade and economic problems between the two countries with a view to finding mutually satisfactory solutions. They noted that early restoration of balance in each of the two countries' worldwide international payments was of basic concern to

both and agreed to assist each other toward this end. In this regard, and with a view to making possible the continuation and expansion of mutually beneficial trade and financial relationships between the two countries and promoting the development and stability of the Asia-Pacific area, they agreed to enhance the usefulness of the Joint United States-Japan Committee on Trade and Economic Affairs by establishing at an early date a subcommittee. This subcommittee will be a forum for consultation on economic and financial matters of importance to both countries, including the short and longer-range balance of payments problems of the two countries.

IX.

The President and the Prime Minister expressed their satisfaction with the active and expanding scientific cooperation between Japan and the United States. They especially recognized the contributions made by the United States-Japan Cooperative Medical Science Program which was established as a result of their last meeting in January 1965, and the continuing achievements of the United States-Japan Committee on Scientific Cooperation.

The President and the Prime Minister discussed the peaceful exploration and use of outer space, and noted with satisfaction the recent entry into force of the Treaty on Principles Governing the Activities of States in the Exploration and Use of Outer Space, including the Moon and Other Celestial Bodies, a new milestone in mankind's progress towards peaceful uses of outer space. They reviewed space cooperation to date between the United States and Japan, and surveyed possibilities for future cooperation. They agreed that the two Governments should look more closely into such possibilities, focusing on the development and

launching of earth satellites for the scientific research and peaceful utilization of outer space.

The President and the Prime Minister, aware of the increasing importance of the oceans as a source of food for the world's growing population and as a source of minerals, have agreed to seek ways of greatly expanding United States-Japan cooperation in research and in development of technology for the utilization of marine resources through the United States-Japan Conference on Development and Utilization of Natural Resources. For this purpose they have agreed that as a part of the United States-Japan natural resources program, there should be prepared a report and recommendations to the two Governments looking to cooperation between the two countries in this field.

The President and the Prime Minister recognized that the promotion of peaceful

uses of atomic energy has immense possibility of furthering the welfare of mankind and noted with satisfaction that there exists a close cooperative relationship between the two countries in this field. In this connection, the two leaders expressed satisfaction with the smooth progress of the current negotiations to conclude a new agreement for cooperation in this field. The Prime Minister welcomed in particular the intention of the United States Government to increase the supply of such nuclear fuel as U₂₃₅ and plutonium to Japan.

X.

The President and the Prime Minister were satisfied with their second meeting which was extremely useful and expressed their desire that close personal contact continue in the future.

492 The President's Remarks to Reporters Following His Meeting With Prime Minister Sato. November 15, 1967

[At the conclusion of their discussions, the President and Prime Minister Sato walked through the West Lobby of the White House and said their goodbys at the door. After the Prime Minister's departure, the President stopped to talk with newsmen in the Lobby. The conversation was in progress before a stenotypist arrived.]

THE PRESIDENT. We talked about education all over the world. I don't like to use this word, but some say I am kind of hipped on it. I am going to make a speech on it in a minute and make a few observations.

We talked about how we could jointly engage in some ventures and adventures in the educational television field and how we could take one teacher and reach thousands of children, how we could set up a joint en-

terprise in that respect.

We talked about balance of payments. We talked about the dissenters we had in each country—Japan and here. Some of you fellows got a lot of recognition this afternoon in there privately.

Q. How about protectionism and quota legislation, protectionism on the Hill? Did you discuss that?

THE PRESIDENT. No. I told him of our problems and the problems that we have there. But he also knows our position. I think we demonstrated in the Kennedy Round and other places how we feel about it. I think that our Cabinet has been meeting with their Cabinet every year and is pretty well understood.

I think you realize that we do have some

problems in this field. But he knows the position of the Government.

Q. Mr. President, we have not seen the communiqué.¹ Was there any discussion you could tell us about on Communist China?

THE PRESIDENT. It will last until you get the communiqué. The answer is "yes".

Q. Mr. President, did Mr. Sato give you any indication as to how Japan feels about the nonproliferation treaty?

THE PRESIDENT. It was not a specific subject of the discussion. We did not go into that. Whatever discussions they were engaging in I am sure were with other people—and as you know, with Secretary Rusk and the Secretary of Defense.

I outlined pretty well the details of paragraph 7 of the communiqué. It was very carefully drawn language. It has required a good deal of study; that is with the Bonin Islands involved, and others involved.

The Development Bank and the Vietnam situation, the balance of payments, and things were what occupied us this afternoon.

¹ See Item 491.

Q. Did you explain Hanoi's adamancy in any way?

THE PRESIDENT. I am not going to get into that. So far as Vietnam is concerned, you just let his speech be your guide.

Q. You touched on everything, Mr. President, except the Middle East?

THE PRESIDENT. He has had full discussions and exchanges with the Secretary of State on various parts. We talked about all continents, but I don't think it is fair to imply that we had a meeting today on Latin America or the Middle East, Africa, or anything.

What we did is have principal discussions this afternoon. We had a lengthy discussion last night, and yesterday.

We were running over. We came in early today. We were due at 5:30; we came in about 5:10 or 5:15.

I have a 6:30 meeting. If you have one or two extra quick shorties, I will do it.

Reporter: Thank you very much.

NOTE: The transcript of the remarks began at 7:10 p.m. As printed above, this item follows the text released by the White House Press Office.

493 Remarks at a Reception for Leaders of Veterans Organizations. *November 15, 1967*

FIRST I want to ask your understanding for my being late. I have been late most of my life. But I seem to be—as age advances and the Prime Minister has come to town—a little later than usual.

I am sorry that I couldn't be here with you when the reception began.

For all last year and this year we have been hoping that we could get together. Bill Driver has talked to us a number of times about it—also the veterans committees in the House and Senate—to have a little reception here in honor of the veterans organiza-

tions who provide the leadership for the veterans of this country.

There are 26 million men and women who have served this Nation, who have protected it—and who are protecting it this hour.

Last weekend I saw thousands of them. General Wheeler asked me to try to come to see the Marines on the Marine anniversary. I ate so much Marine cake I don't get on the scales any more.

But I have had my problems with the Marines as some of you have observed from

the newspapers.

All my life being an old Navy man—and seeing Senator Yarborough here an old Army man—we just have to put up with these Marines because every time you hear from them they say, “The Marines have landed and everything is in good shape.”

So I told them on my visit that is just exactly what happened to me right here in the White House. The Marines landed and everything is in good shape and we are going to have a wedding here in a few days.

While we are working on this one over here in the Mansion for my daughter, one of them was messing around over here in my office and married my secretary.

But I went out to see these fighting young men and women who represent the very best in America.

We first went to Fort Benning, Georgia. I have never been more inspired than when I saw the men who were taking their parachute jumps there, and when I saw them out practicing guerrilla warfare.

Then we went to El Toro and Camp Pendleton for the Marines.

Then we went out on the *Enterprise* carrier and spent the night with 5,000 men and saw them take 100 planes off in the afternoon and night and bring them in. The *Enterprise*, you know, has been on Yankee Station out in Vietnam and will be back out there again in January.

Then we went to the Air Force where our fighter and bomber pilots were just coming from Vietnam—men with over 100 missions.

Then we wound up in Yorktown with the Coast Guard.

So we covered them all.

I had dinner in the Captain’s cabin with enlisted men. They were looking down at the admirals who were sitting at the other end of the line. The fact that one of them

was from Comfort, Texas, was purely coincidental.

But I don’t need to tell you that these young men and women and their fighting comrades in Vietnam represent the very best that this country produced.

If there is one thing I learned from talking to all the generals, admirals, enlisted men, and the others, it is that we are giving them a quality product of manhood and womanhood today that they have never received before.

That is no compliment to you and me, Ralph. But they are better than we were.

Every man there told me they were better than we were. That, we are very proud of.

I know you veterans are very proud of it because we are going to need our best for the tough, demanding, unfinished business that is ahead. We have plenty of it.

I want to get down to business very quickly because I have an idea and I want to make a sale. I want to promote you. I want to get you in here to roll up your sleeves and start doing something for these veterans, as you have been all of these years.

Last year, 600,000 veterans returned to civilian life. Next year, it will be 800,000. Every month we are mustering out about 70,000 veterans—every month, 70,000.

Eric Hoffer, our longshoreman friend from out there in California, calls these veterans the “seed of the future.” You city boys may not know what that means, but we farmers do.

They are a very great, tremendous, natural resource—and national resource. We ought to realize that and recognize it. Their energies, their ambitions, and their efforts are going to determine what kind of a country we live in and the kind my grandson lives in.

I want to plant this seed. I want to put it

down where it will do the most good in the most fertile soil. I want it to grow. I want a harvest of educated children in this country because education is the guardian genius of democracy. If you don't want totalitarianism, if you don't want dictatorship, if you don't want communism, you just pour the education to them. That is what we are doing.

I talked to the leaders of the land-grant colleges this morning. I am talking about our elementary school problems tomorrow, but I am talking to you now about educated children. My own roots have been in the classroom. That is where the action is; that is where the future is. When I leave here, that is directly where I am going—to the classroom because nowhere is the challenge of tomorrow greater than it is in our schools and particularly in our elementary schools.

Nowhere is it more real or more urgent than in the ghetto schools.

I doubt that any of you here live in a ghetto. But you ought to live in one long enough to understand what it is about—and have a little compassion—to decide to do something about it.

If we don't, it is going to wreck our Nation. The children in these ghettos need the teaching most and they get it least.

If you were a teacher, would you like to be a college professor, or would you like to be a high school teacher? Yes, in that order. And an elementary school teacher? Yes. Elementary school teacher in a ghetto? That is the last place you want to be.

So that all the good ones are pulled out of there. We have to put somebody back there who wants to do something about cleaning up those ghettos and doing something about those poor children—the ones who need it most. That is what I want to talk to you about right now.

These are the children who can't recognize the picture of a teddy bear. This is a

serious situation when we are living in a world where 4 out of 10 children, and 4 out of 10 adults, and 4 out of 10 people cannot read "cat" and cannot spell "dog."

Then we talk about how proud we are of the 20th century. They are A-plus students when it comes to recognizing a rat because they have had more experience with rats than they have had with teddy bears, or a garbage can, or a knife, or a beer bottle.

They can't tell you about colors because their lives are so drab. Why? Because too often there is no one in the house to ever teach them, no one to read to them, no one to give them any kind of good example, no one to give them loving discipline.

We have two wonderful daughters. I think the thing that is helping them more than any other thing is every morning when they wake up, every night when they go to bed, and every time their mother sees them in the daytime she always says, "Remember, mother has got confidence in you and mama cares. You are loved. You are loved." She says that to the two daughters all the time.

But these poor ghetto children don't have that, because their mother is gone and their father—they don't have one sometimes because he is not there.

Our figures show that between now and 1975 2½ million teachers will enter or re-enter elementary school teaching. We will only need 2.2 million.

But here is the problem: Our high schools will have more than they need and our grade schools will not have what they need: 6,000 less than they will need every year between 1970 and 1975. But it is even worse than that.

The schools that are going to suffer are the schools where the children need the teachers the most—the ghetto schools, the forgotten rural schools, the little bordertown schools, the Indian reservation schools.

The richer schools can pay higher salaries, they can offer better working conditions—they can hire the teachers.

But the poor schools just cannot. Too often they get the dregs and the leftovers. They need the best teachers the most. They get the worst ones.

Here is the job that I want you to do for me. Here is the new battleground where I think our veterans belong. I want them not only to protect our freedom abroad—I want them to protect our freedom and our liberty right here in our cities.

I want to find veterans who want to teach. I want to give them the chance to teach these neglected children. They are teaching in Vietnam now.

One of the things that I am most proud of is the compassion that our soldiers, particularly our Marines right up in the DMZ, are showing for poor children—their health problems, their education problems. They fight all day and go at night to school to teach them. That is where I got this idea.

Four and a half million veterans have been discharged since Korea. In that 4½ million only 100,000 of them are teaching—67,000 veterans are discharged every month and only 1,500 teach.

So I want to encourage many more veterans to teach. All you veteran service officers from all of the States were invited here. Your representatives are here tonight. I got my picture made with you. Are you listening? I want to talk to you right now.

I want to encourage more veterans to teach. If they don't know how to teach now, I want to, with some of my Senators' and Congressmen's help, help them be taught how to teach themselves—and we want to teach them how to teach.

These men and women have something rare, something unusual, and I think something wonderful to offer if they have served

in our uniform. They can bring to the ghetto classrooms what few others can. They can bring there whatever children need—example, experience, integrity, honor, courage, faith, hope, and love of country demonstrated by being there when they needed you.

There are too many children who do not have a father or brother in the house. The men of Vietnam can show them what a man can be and what a real man is like—and what a man should be.

I don't know anyone in the world who can show it better than the men who have worn the uniform in Vietnam or other places and come out.

So who knows what the challenge to democracy is better than they do? Many of our veterans are no strangers to the agonies of the ghetto. They know the suspicion and hostility of the ghetto. They fought for their own freedom in the ghetto. Some of them came out of there.

Then they went to fight for a nation's freedom in Vietnam. Now they can come home to continue the fight as teachers to win freedom for others who need them desperately.

One month after I came into office I said: "Why can't we lower the IQ requirement, the mental requirements, and why can't we lower the physical requirements so we can get out and at least take some of these boys who might not be good soldiers or good fighters, but teach them to get up early in the morning, to get a cold shower, shave, and be on time—give them some discipline and training—and they might learn to mow a lawn."

I sold Mr. McNamara on the plan. Then I got Senator Russell down and went hunting with him—and got him to agree to take 12,000. Now we have 100,000. They have already enlisted 49,000 who have an average of fifth grade reading ability.

We are bringing them out of these places and putting them in there. You know the proudest thing I heard on this trip was one old, seasoned, crusty general came up to tell McNamara the story of the program.

We said, "What about these at the bottom of the heap who we brought in, that we are trying to train?"

He said, "I got the shock of my life. We have 47 of them who are going to officer's schools."

That shows you. I want to get some of these men who have come back from fighting for their country, trained to be teachers—we don't know what we will call them; we will call them the Veterans Teachers or something—to come and go into these ghettos over the country; go there, stay with them, and live with them, and teach them so we can save those children, those cities, our country.

Therefore tonight I am requesting and appointing the Veterans Administrator, William Driver—there has never been a better Government employee. He is like the rest of us—he has out-married himself.

But I am asking Bill Driver to work closely with Secretary Gardner, Commissioner Howe, and to keep in contact with the House Veterans Committee, members of both parties, and the Senate Labor and Welfare Committee, and Finance, who handle veterans legislation—work closely with them—because I want them to develop a plan to enlist the returning veterans in this challenging new assignment.

I want to invite your thoughts on it. I want your organizations to give us any suggestions you can about it. I talked to Mr. McNamara about it during my lunch hour today when Mr. Bunker was sitting there.

I said: "This is what I am going to suggest tonight if I can get there. I don't want some-

body undercutting me tomorrow. How do you feel about it? Is it a good idea or isn't it?"

He approves it wholeheartedly.

So we will go out before these men are discharged and, with the help of the veterans organizations, we will say to these men: "You not only have protected our freedom wherever that flag has gone, you followed it and you brought it back without a stain on it. You can protect our citizens and our future right here at home by taking this job. If you are not qualified to do it now, we will qualify you to do it. We will give you training that is necessary and you get out there and give these children the kind of teaching they are entitled to in the richest nation in the world—that is going to have a gross national product of \$850 billion next year."

I think you care about the veterans. I think you care about the country. I don't think I am presumptuous in assuming that.

If you do care about the veterans, and you do care about the country, here is a chance to do something for both of them.

You always have to pay for your supper. You have paid by listening.

Thank you very much.

NOTE: The President spoke at 7:47 p.m. in the State Dining Room at the White House to a group of some 200 Members of Congress, Veterans Administration officials, and representatives of major veterans organizations. During his remarks he referred to, among others, Prime Minister Eisaku Sato of Japan, Administrator of Veterans Affairs W. J. Driver, Gen. Earle G. Wheeler, Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, Senator Ralph Yarborough of Texas, member of the Veterans Affairs Subcommittee of the Senate Labor and Public Welfare Committee, Robert S. McNamara, Secretary of Defense, Senator Richard B. Russell of Georgia, John W. Gardner, Secretary of Health, Education, and Welfare, Harold Howe II, Commissioner of Education, and Ellsworth Bunker, U.S. Ambassador to the Republic of Vietnam.

494 Remarks Upon Presenting the Medal of Honor to Staff Sgt.
Charles B. Morris, USA. November 16, 1967

Sergeant and Mrs. Morris, and Doug, Secretary Resor, General Johnson, General Westmoreland, distinguished Members of Congress from Virginia, and other Representatives here, distinguished guests:

One of America's greatest war correspondents wrote about courage—intimately and well.

He called the decorations for bravery “pinnacles of triumph” in a man's life, “that will stand out until the day he dies.”

Ernie Pyle spoke for all wars—for all those moments when men must reach down into their deepest reserves of courage. He celebrated those times when men risk life for a principle—or risk life for a comrade—or risk their lives for their country.

On whatever field, on whatever day—war is an agony of spirit and flesh and mind.

After thousands of years of civilization, the saddest of human failures is this—the precious wealth of man's courage must still today be spent on the battlefield.

But all the wisdom of the earth has not yet found a way to preserve freedom without defending it.

Staff Sergeant Charles Morris is one of those who defended freedom on the battlefield. He fought with dogged courage through long hours of hell. He fought far above and far beyond the call of any duty.

Just a few days ago, I returned from a journey of 33 hours and 6,000 miles, where I met thousands of Sergeant Morris' comrades.

I stood with American sailors on the deck of a mighty carrier, the *Enterprise*, at sea in the Pacific Ocean. I stood with our airmen under skies that were filled with American power, many of them who had just finished their 100 missions in Vietnam. I saluted the

infantry, the Queen of the Battle, at Fort Benning, and the Marines at El Toro and Camp Pendleton. And I ended my trip at Yorktown with the gallant men of the Coast Guard.

Some of the men that I saw were there just beginning their training for combat.

Some of the men I saw had just returned from combat. They wore its badges—and many of them wore its wounds.

I saw other badges, too.

I saw the white carnations that were worn by wives of the missing men.

I saw the loneliness on the faces of waiting families, and little boys and girls.

I felt oh so humble to be among these men and women. But I also felt a towering pride—pride in them—pride in this Nation.

I realized that some good day, war was going to be only a shadowed memory.

We will labor, with all of our passion and with all the strength God gives us, to quicken the coming of that day.

But until it does come, our lives, our safety, and our hope of freedom's survival are in the hands of all those like Sergeant Morris, all of those who serve—here and in Vietnam.

Sergeant Charles Morris was there when America needed him.

And I am so glad that his commander, General Westmoreland, could be here today to observe this ceremony concerning one of his very own soldiers.

Once before, I stood with General Westmoreland at a ceremony for Sergeant Morris when he enjoyed one of his other “pinnacles of triumph.” It was at Cam Ranh Bay in Vietnam, just a little bit more than a year ago. Upon General Westmoreland's suggestion I awarded Sergeant Morris the Distin-

guished Service Cross.

Today, I am so proud to stand with him again, here in the East Room of the White House, on a hero's very highest summit—the Medal of Honor.

Sergeant Morris, I don't know anything more or anything better that I could say to you than all the American people for whom I am supposed to speak are grateful to you and appreciative that the Good Lord has given you to us and has brought you back. May God bless you.

Secretary Resor will now read the citation.

[Text of citation read by Secretary of the Army Stanley R. Resor]

The President of the United States of America, authorized by Act of Congress, March 3, 1863, has awarded in the name of The Congress the Medal of Honor to

STAFF SERGEANT CHARLES B. MORRIS,
UNITED STATES ARMY

for conspicuous gallantry and intrepidity in action at the risk of his life above and beyond the call of duty:

While on a search and destroy mission in the Republic of Vietnam on 29 June 1966, Staff Sergeant (then Sergeant) Morris was a leader of the point squad of a platoon of Company A, 2nd Battalion, 503rd Infantry. Seeing indications of the enemy's presence in the area, Sergeant Morris deployed his squad and continued forward alone to make a reconnaissance. He unknowingly crawled within 20 meters of an enemy machine gun, whereupon the gunner fired, wounding him in the chest. Sergeant Morris instantly returned the fire and killed the gunner. Continuing to crawl within a few feet of the gun, he hurled a grenade and killed the remainder of the enemy crew.

Although in pain and bleeding profusely, Sergeant Morris continued his reconnais-

sance. Returning to the platoon area, he reported the results of his reconnaissance to the platoon leader. As he spoke, the platoon came under heavy fire. Refusing medical attention for himself, he deployed his men in better firing positions confronting the entrenched enemy to his front.

Then for eight hours the platoon engaged the numerically superior enemy force. Withdrawal was impossible without abandoning many wounded and dead. Finding the platoon "medic" dead, Sergeant Morris administered first aid to himself, and was returning to treat the wounded members of his squad with the "medic's" first aid kit when he was again wounded. Knocked down and stunned, he regained consciousness and continued to treat the wounded, reposition his men, and inspire and encourage their efforts. Wounded again when an enemy grenade shattered his left hand, nonetheless he personally took up the fight and armed and threw several grenades which killed a number of enemy soldiers. Seeing that an enemy machine gun had maneuvered behind his platoon and was delivering fire upon his men, Sergeant Morris and another man crawled toward the gun to knock it out. His comrade was killed and Sergeant Morris sustained another wound, but firing his rifle with one hand, he silenced the enemy machine gun. Returning to the platoon, he courageously exposed himself to the devastating enemy fire to drag the wounded to a protected area, and with utter disregard for his personal safety and the pain he suffered, he continued to lead and direct the efforts of his men until relief arrived.

Upon termination of the battle, important documents were found among the enemy dead revealing a planned ambush of a Republic of Vietnam battalion. Use of this information prevented the ambush and saved many lives. Sergeant Morris' conspicuous

gallantry and intrepidity at the risk of his life above and beyond the call of duty were instrumental in the successful defeat of the enemy, saved many lives, and were in the highest traditions of the United States Army.

LYNDON B. JOHNSON

[Following the reading of the citation, the President resumed speaking.]

General Westmoreland, would you favor us by making a comment or two? We are so proud to have you.

General Westmoreland and I just finished a long briefing.

He, Mrs. Westmoreland, and their daughter, Margaret, are our guests at the White House. We will be visiting together in the next few days.

I know how you must feel about your men. I thought you might like to say a few words.

[At this point General Westmoreland stated that he knew Sergeant Morris. "We are not only fellow

soldiers, but we are friends. I saw him at Cam Ranh Bay when he was decorated . . . by our Commander in Chief. I saw him several times in the hospital. The indomitable spirit that he displayed on the battlefield . . . he displayed in the hospital every time I saw him—self-confident, proud to be a soldier, proud to serve his country . . . , proud to be an American." The General then recalled that he had told the President at that time that there were no finer troops than those commanded by President Johnson around the world as well as in Vietnam.]

NOTE: The President spoke at 1:20 p.m. in the East Room at the White House. In his opening words he referred to Sergeant Morris, his wife Lillian Mary, their 10-year-old son Douglas, Secretary of the Army Stanley R. Resor, Gen. Harold K. Johnson, Army Chief of Staff, and Gen. William C. Westmoreland, Commander, United States Military Assistance Command, Vietnam, whose remarks on the occasion are printed in the Weekly Compilation of Presidential Documents (vol. 3, p. 1582).

A White House announcement on November 14 (3 Weekly Comp. Pres. Docs., p. 1567) recalled that during his visit to U.S. troops at Cam Ranh Bay, South Vietnam, in October 1966, the President had awarded the Distinguished Service Cross to Sergeant Morris, a native of Galax, Va.

495 The President's News Conference of November 17, 1967

THE PRESIDENT. Good morning, ladies and gentlemen, I will be glad to take your questions.

QUESTIONS

FORCE LEVELS IN VIETNAM

[1.] Q. Do you think that at this point our force levels in Vietnam will begin to level off in authorized strength, or do you think more troops may be needed in the future?

THE PRESIDENT. We have previously considered and approved the recommendations of the Joint Chiefs of Staff for the force level.

General Westmoreland discussed this at some length with me last night and this morning. He anticipates no increase in that level.

APPRAISING CRITICISMS OF THE PRESIDENT

[2.] Q. Mr. President, we are getting close to the end of your 4th year in office. You have been subjected to a great deal of personal criticism, ranging from a Senator in your own party planning to run—

THE PRESIDENT. I am generally familiar with that.

Q. —to the preacher in Williamsburg. I wonder how you appraise this personally?

THE PRESIDENT. It is not a surprise. I am aware that this has happened to the 35 Presidents who preceded me. No public official, certainly not one who has been in public life 35 years as I have been, would fail to expect criticism.

There is a different type of criticism. There

is a difference between constructive dissent and storm trooper bullying, howling, and taking the law into your own hands.

I think that the President must expect that those in the other party will frequently find it necessary to find fault and to complain—to attempt to picture to the people that the President should be replaced.

It is also true in all parties that there are divisions. We don't all think alike. If we did, one man would be doing all the thinking.

So you have divisions in parties. We have perhaps more than our share sometimes. But I am sure the Republicans think that, too.

When you get into a political year, with the help and advice and the abetting that the press can do, and the assistance that the opposing party can do—because it is to their interest to try to destroy you in order to have a place for themselves—and you take the divisions in your own party, and they concentrate, then it does seem to mount up and at times occupy a great deal of public attention.

But I don't think it is unusual for a President to be criticized. That seems to be one of the things that goes with the job.

Not many of us want to say, "I failed," or "I made a mistake," or "We shouldn't have done that," or "This shouldn't have happened."

It is always easier to say that someone over there is wrong. The President is more or less a lightning rod. At least I have seen that in this country.

I remember, to take one or two illustrations, when President Truman very courageously and, I think, very wisely went into Korea.

One of our pollsters dashed out with a poll—Dr. Gallup—and found that that position was approved by about 81 percent. Six

months later, when the sacrifices were evident and the problems began to appear, the same pollster, talking to the same people, found that this had dropped from 81 to 26 percent.

Now, those things have happened in all of our crises—economic, domestic, and international. A President learns to expect them and learns to live with them.

The important thing for every man who occupies this place is to search as best he can to get the right answer; to try to find out what is right; and then do it without regard to polls and without regard to criticism.

THE BOMBING OF NORTH VIETNAM

[3.] Q. Mr. President, a good many Americans have said that a stop to the bombing is worth trying just to see if North Vietnam will respond. What is your view on this?

THE PRESIDENT. North Vietnam has responded. Their statement this week in the Hanoi newspaper in response to my statement from the *Enterprise* is very clear and very compelling. It should answer any person in this country who has ever felt that stopping the bombing alone would bring us to the negotiating table.

Hanoi made it very clear in response to my appeal from the *Enterprise* that their position, in effect, was the same as it has always been. It was the same as enunciated in Ho Chi Minh's letter to me which Ho Chi Minh made public.

There are some hopeful people and there are some naive people in this country—and there are some political people.

But anyone who really wants to know what the position of North Vietnam is should read what the spokesmen of North Vietnam say.

That is best summarized in Mr. Ho Chi Minh's letter to the President that he made public, that is on the record, that he has never changed.

So all of these hopes, dreams, and idealistic people going around are misleading and confusing and weakening our position.

THE VIETCONG'S WILLINGNESS TO NEGOTIATE

[4.] Q. Do you have any evidence that the Vietcong might be moving toward the position of wanting to negotiate separate from Hanoi and, if so, what would be your attitude toward negotiating with them?

THE PRESIDENT. I would prefer to handle our negotiations through diplomatic channels with whomsoever we may negotiate.

I don't think this is the place to do our negotiating. We are very anxious to find a solution that will bring an end to the war.

As we have stated so many times, we are ready to meet and discuss that with the officials of Hanoi and the Vietcong will have no problem in having their voice fully heard and considered.

But I think that it would be better if we would wait until opportunity develops along that line and then do it through our trained diplomats.

REFLECTIONS AFTER 4 YEARS IN OFFICE

[5.] Q. Mr. President, a minute ago you talked about the job of being President. This Wednesday you are going to complete 4 years in the Office of the President. I wonder if you could reflect for a moment on the Presidency and what have been your greatest satisfactions and what are your greatest disappointments.

THE PRESIDENT. Well, I think we had better do that a little later. I can't tell all the

good things that have happened or the bad ones, either, in these 4 years in a 30-minute press conference. I would be charged with filibustering.

But we primarily want to think of the future—and not the past.

It has been almost two centuries since our Revolution and since we won our freedom. We have come a long way during that period. But we have much farther to go, as you can see from our education and health and city statistics, and farm statistics.

As long as there are four people out of every ten in the world who can't spell "cat," or can't write "dog," we have much to do.

I am particularly proud of what we have done in education—from Head Start to adult education, where men and women past 70 are learning to read and write for the first time.

I am very pleased, for instance, that we have raised our contributions from the Federal Government to higher education from 16 percent to 24 percent in the last 4 years, while the States have remained practically static.

We have made revolutionary strides in education, in health, in conservation, where we are probably taking in as much land in the public domain for the first time in years as we are letting out.

We feel that we have brought a degree of stability into our international relations to this hemisphere through the Alliance for Progress and our meetings at Punta del Este.

Working with other nations, we have made material advances in helping underdeveloped nations in Africa.

We are very pleased with what has come out of our meetings with the Germans and with the British in connection with our tri-lateral talks; what has come out of our Kennedy Round meetings; the several treaties

that we have negotiated with the Soviet Union, and the one that we are working on so hard now—the nonproliferation treaty.

We are happy that 9 million more people have good-paying jobs today than had them when I came into this office.

But these are things of the past, and we should accept. They are here. We want to preserve them.

But the important problems are ahead. What is the next century going to be like? What is the third century going to be like?

As long as the ancient enemies are rampant in the world—illiteracy, ignorance, disease, poverty, and war—there is much for government to do.

We are working on that now. We will be talking more to you about that in the months ahead.

ASSESSMENT OF SITUATION IN VIETNAM

[6.] Q. Mr. President, in view of your talks this week with General Westmoreland, Ambassador Bunker, and others, what is your present assessment of our progress and prospects in Vietnam?

THE PRESIDENT. Well, I will repeat to you their assessment, because they are the ones who are in the best position to judge things locally. I will give you my evaluation of what they have said.

First, I think every American's heart should swell with pride at the competence and capacity of our leadership in Vietnam.

I believe, and our allied people believe, that we have a superior leadership. I think it is the best that the United States of America can produce—in experience, in judgment, in training, in general competence.

I have had three meetings with Ambassador Bunker and three with General West-

moreland. I had coffee with him at length this morning, just before I came here.

Our American people, when we get in a contest of any kind—whether it is in a war, an election, a football game, or whatever it is—want it decided and decided quickly; get in or get out.

They like that curve to rise like this [*indicating a sharp rise*] and they like the opposition to go down like this [*indicating a sharply declining line*].

That is not the kind of war we are fighting in Vietnam.

We made our statement to the world of what we would do if we had Communist aggression in that part of the world in 1954.

We said we would stand with those people in the face of common danger.

The time came when we had to put up or shut up. We put up. And we are there. We don't march out and have a big battle each day in a guerrilla war. It is a new kind of war for us. So it doesn't move that fast.

Summarizing and trying to be fully responsive to your question in the time allotted, we are moving more like this [*indicating gradual rise*]. They are moving more like this [*indicating decline*], instead of straight up and straight down.

We are making progress. We are pleased with the results that we are getting.

We are inflicting greater losses than we are taking.

Amidst the horrors of war—and more people have been killed trying to vote in South Vietnam than have been killed by bombs in North Vietnam, according to the North Vietnam figures—in the midst of all the horrors of war, in guerrilla fighting in South Vietnam, we have had five elections in a period of a little over 14 months.

There was great doubt whether we could

have any. It took us from 1776 to 1789—not 13 months but 13 years—to get a Constitution with our Anglo-Saxon background and all the training we had.

To think that here in the midst of war, when the grenades are popping like fire-crackers all around you, that two-thirds or three-fourths of the people would register and vote, and have 5 elections in 13 months—and through the democratic process select people at the local level, a constituent assembly, a house of representatives, a senate, a president and a vice president—that is encouraging.

The fact that the population under free control has constantly risen, and that under Communist control has constantly gone down, is a very encouraging sign.

The improvement that has been made by the South Vietnamese themselves in putting in reforms, in announcing other programs, and in improving their own Army, is a matter of great satisfaction to Ambassador Bunker and to General Westmoreland.

We have a lot to do yet. A great many mistakes have been made. We take two steps forward, and we slip back one. It is not all perfect by any means.

There are a good many days when we get a C-minus instead of an A-plus.

But overall, we are making progress. We are satisfied with that progress. Our allies are pleased with that progress. Every country that I know in that area that is familiar with what is happening thinks it is absolutely essential that Uncle Sam keep his word and stay there until we can find an honorable peace.

If they have any doubts about it, Mr. Ho Chi Minh—who reads our papers and who listens to our radio, who looks at our television—if he has any doubts about it, I want

to disillusion him this morning.

We keep our commitments. Our people are going to support the men who are there. The men there are going to bring us an honorable peace.

HANOI'S INTERPRETATION OF PUBLIC OPINION IN THE UNITED STATES

[7.] Q. Mr. President, Hanoi may be interpreting current public opinion polls to indicate that you will be replaced next year. How should this affect the campaign in this country?

THE PRESIDENT. I don't know how it will affect the campaign in this country. Whatever interpretation Hanoi might make that would lead them to believe that Uncle Sam—whoever may be President—is going to pull out and it will be easier for them to make an inside deal with another President, then they will make a serious misjudgment.

THE PRESIDENT'S PLANS FOR 1968

[8.] Q. Are you going to run next year?

THE PRESIDENT. I will cross that bridge when I get to it, as I have told you so many times.

PROSPECTS FOR PASSAGE OF TAX BILL

[9.] Q. Mr. President, there are increasing statements from Capitol Hill that say your tax bill is dead for this session of Congress. Is there any plan on the part of your administration to try and revive this before Congress leaves; and, secondly, if not, what plans might you have next year to avert this inflationary trend that we are told will be coming?

THE PRESIDENT. We want very much to

have a tax bill just as quickly as we can get it. We think the sound, prudent, fiscal policy requires it. We are going to do everything that the President and the administration can do to get that tax bill.¹

I would be less than frank if I didn't tell you that I have no indication whatever that Mr. Mills or Mr. Byrnes² or the Ways and Means Committee is likely to report a tax bill before they adjourn.

I feel that one of our failures in the administration has been our inability to convince the Congress of the wisdom of fiscal responsibility and the necessity of passing a tax bill not only for the effect it will have on the inflationary developments, but the effect it will have on the huge deficit that we are running.

I think one of the great mistakes that the Congress will make is that Mr. Ford³ and Mr. Mills have taken this position that they cannot have any tax bill now. They will live to rue the day when they made that decision. Because it is a dangerous decision. It is an unwise decision.

I think that the people of America—none of whom want to pay taxes—any pollster can walk out and say, "Do you want to pay more tax?" Of course you will say, "No, I don't want to pay tax."

But if you ask him: "Do you want inflation; do you want prices to increase 5 or 6 percent; do you want a deficit of \$30 or \$35 billion; do you want to spend \$35 billion

more than you are taking in?" I think the average citizen would say, "No."

Here at the height of our prosperity when our gross national product is going to run at \$850 billion, when we look at the precedents of what we have done in past wars—in Korea when President Truman asked for a tax increase, people supported it.

This request has been before the Congress since last January. They have finished most of the appropriations bills. I read the story this morning. It looks like out of \$145 billion they will roughly cut a billion dollars in expenditures.

But they will cut several billion from revenues because of inaction, because people don't like to stand up and do the unpopular thing of assuming responsibility that men in public life are required to do sometime.

I know it doesn't add to your polls and your popularity to say we have to have additional taxes to fight this war abroad and fight the problems in our cities at home. But we can do it with the gross national product we have. We should do it. And I think when the American people and the Congress get the full story they will do it.

We have failed up to now to be able to convince them. But we are going to continue to try in every way that is proper.

INTENTIONS OF SENATOR EUGENE MCCARTHY

[10.] Q. Senator McCarthy has said he is considering opposing you in the presidential primaries because he believes it would be a healthy thing to debate Vietnam in the primaries, for the party and for the country, too. Do you agree with him? What effect do you think this would have on your own candidacy?

THE PRESIDENT. I don't know how I am

¹The Revenue and Expenditure Control Act of 1968 was approved by the President on June 28, 1968 (Public Law 90-364, 82 Stat. 251).

²Representative Wilbur D. Mills of Arkansas, Chairman of the House Ways and Means Committee, and Representative John W. Byrnes of Wisconsin, ranking Republican member of the Committee.

³Representative Gerald R. Ford of Michigan, House Minority Leader.

going to be, after all this opposition develops, so far as my state of health is concerned. But I am very healthy today. I don't know whether this criticism has contributed to my good health or not.

I don't know what Senator McCarthy is going to do. I am not sure that he knows what he plans to do. I think we had better just wait and see, until there is something definite there, and meet it when it is necessary.

PUBLIC OPINION ON VIETNAM

[11.] Q. Why do you think there is so much confusion, frustration, and difference of opinion in this country about the war in Vietnam?

THE PRESIDENT. There has always been confusion, frustration, and difference of opinion when there is a war going on.

There was in the Revolutionary War when only about a third of the people thought that was a wise move. A third of them opposed it, and a third were on the sideline.

That was true when all of New England came down to secede in Madison's administration in the War of 1812, and stopped in Baltimore. They didn't quite make it because Andrew Jackson's results in New Orleans came in.

They were having a party there that night. The next morning they came and told the President they wanted to congratulate him—that they had thought he was right all along, although they had come from Boston to Baltimore in a secessionist move.

That was true in the Mexican War when the Congress overwhelmingly voted to go in and later passed a resolution that had grave doubts about it. Some of the most bitter speeches were made. They were so bitter

they couldn't be published. They had to hold up publication of them for 100 years.

I don't have to remind you of what happened in the Civil War. People were here in the White House begging Lincoln to concede and work out a deal with the Confederacy when word came to him of his victories. They told him that Pennsylvania was gone; that Illinois had no chance.

Those pressures come to a President.

You know what President Roosevelt went through, and President Wilson in World War I. He had some Senators from certain areas then that gave him very serious problems until victory was assured.

Now, when you look back upon it, there are very few people who would think that Wilson, Roosevelt, or Truman were in error.

We are going to have this criticism. We are going to have these differences.

No one likes war. All people love peace. But you can't have freedom without defending it.

THE CUTBACK IN FOREIGN AID

[12.] Q. Mr. President, the foreign aid authorization has been cut back nearly a third from what you requested. What is the impact of this economy?

THE PRESIDENT. At a time when the richest nation in the world is enjoying more prosperity than it has ever had before, when we carefully tailor our requests to the very minimum that we think is essential—the lowest request that we have had in years—and then Congress cuts it 33½ percent; I think it is a mistake. It is a serious mistake.

When you consider that \$1 billion that we are attempting to save there, out of the \$850 billion that we will produce, we ought to reconsider that decision. Because what

we are doing with that money not only can give great help to underdeveloped nations; but that, in itself, can prevent the things that cause war where you are required to spend billions to win it.

I would rather have a little preventive medicine. Every dollar that we spend in our foreign assistance, trying to help poor people help themselves, is money well spent.

I don't think we overdid it. I don't think we went too far. But I think the Congress has, in the reductions it has made.

Again, it is popular to go back home and say, "Look what I did for you. I cut out all these foreign expenditures."

But when the trouble develops—the people who are starving, the people who are ignorant, illiterate, and diseased—and wars spring up and we have to go in, we will spend much more than we would if we had taken an ounce of prevention.

THE VIETNAM DISSENTERS

[13.] Q. Mr. President, some people on the air and in print accuse you of trying to label all criticism of your Vietnam policy as unpatriotic. Could you tell us whether you have guidelines in which you are enabled to separate conscientious dissent from irresponsible dissension?

THE PRESIDENT. No, I haven't called anyone unpatriotic. I haven't said anything that would indicate that.

I think the wicked fleeth when no one pursueth, sometimes.

I do think that some people are irresponsible, make untrue statements, and ought to be cautious and careful when they are dealing with the problem involving their men at the front.

There is a great deal of difference, as I said a moment ago, between criticism, indifference, and responsible dissent—all of which

we insist on and all of which we protect—and storm trooper bullying, throwing yourself down in the road, smashing windows, rowdysim, and every time a person attempts to speak to try to drown him out.

We believe very strongly in preserving the right to differ in this country, and the right to dissent. If I have done a good job of anything since I have been President, it is to insure that there are plenty of dissenters.

There is not a person in this press corps that can't write what he wants to write. Most of them do write what they want to. I say "want" advisedly. I want to protect that. Our Congress wants to protect it.

But if I, by chance, should say: "Now, I am not sure that you saw all the cables on this and you are exactly right; let me explain the other side of it," I would hope that you wouldn't say I am lambasting my critics, or that I am assailing someone.

What I am trying to do is to preserve my right to give the other side. I don't think one side ought to dominate the whole picture.

So what I would say is, let's realize that we are in the midst of a war. Let's realize that there are 500,000 of our boys out there who are risking their lives to win that war. Let's ask ourselves what it is we can do to help.

If you think you can make a contribution and help them by expressing your opinion and dissenting, then do it.

But then if the Secretary of State starts to explain his viewpoint, don't send out instructions all over the country and say: "When he starts to talk and says 'Mr. Chairman,' stamp your feet. When he comes to the end of a sentence, all of you do this, and at the third sentence, all of you boo."

I am amazed that the press in this country, who insist on the right to live by the first amendment, and to be protected by it, doesn't insist that these storm trooper tac-

tics live by the first amendment, too, and that they be wiped out.

I think the time has come when it would be good for all of us to take a new, fresh look at dissent.

We welcome responsible dissent. But there is a great deal of difference between responsible dissent and some of the things that are taking place in this country which I consider to be extremely dangerous to our national interest, and I consider not very helpful to the men who are fighting the war for us.

Now, everyone must make that judgment for himself.

I have never said anyone was unpatriotic. I don't question these people's motives. I do question their judgment.

I can't say that this dissent has contributed much to any victories we have had.

I can't say that these various proposals that range from a Senator to a county commissioner to a mayor of a city have really changed General Westmoreland's plan much, or Ambassador Bunker's approach. The papers are filled with it every day.

So I think you have to consider it for what you think it is worth and make your own judgment.

That is the theory of the first amendment.

We don't stop the publication of any papers. We don't fine anyone for something they say. We just appeal to them to remember that they don't have the privilege at the moment of being out there fighting.

Please count to 10 before you say something that hurts instead of helps.

We know that most people's intentions are good. We don't question their motives. We have never said they are unpatriotic, although they say some pretty ugly things about us.

People who live in glass houses shouldn't be too anxious to throw stones.

U.S. AIMS IN VIETNAM

[14.] Q. Mr. President, is your aim in Vietnam to win the war or to seek a compromised, negotiated solution?

THE PRESIDENT. I think our aims in Vietnam have been very clear from the beginning. They are consistent with the SEATO Treaty, with the Atlantic Charter, and with the many, many statements that we have made to the Congress in connection with the Tonkin Gulf Resolution. The Secretary of State has made this clear dozens and dozens of times—and I made it enough that I thought even all the preachers in the country had heard about it.

That is, namely, to protect the security of the United States. We think the security of the United States is definitely tied in with the security of Southeast Asia.

Secondly, to resist aggression. When we are a party to a treaty that says we will do it, then we carry it out.

I think if you saw a little child in this room who was trying to waddle across the floor and some big bully came along and grabbed it by the hair and started stomping it, I think you would do something about it.

I think that we thought we made a mistake when we saw Hitler moving across the landscape of Europe. The concessions that were made by the men carrying umbrellas at that time—I think in retrospect we thought that was a mistake.

So as a consequence, in 1954 under the leadership of President Eisenhower and Secretary Dulles, we had a SEATO Treaty.

It was debated, it was considered and it was gone into very thoroughly by the Senate. The men who presented that treaty then said: This is dangerous. The time may come when we may have to put up or shut up.

But we ought to serve notice in Asia now as we refused to serve notice in Europe a

few years ago that we will resist aggression—that we will stand against someone who seeks to gobble up little countries, if those little countries call upon us for our help. So we did that.

I didn't vote for that treaty. I was in the hospital. Senator Kennedy didn't vote for it—the late President—he was in the hospital. Senator Dirksen didn't vote for it. But 82 Senators did vote for it. They knew what was in that treaty.

The time came when we had to decide whether we meant what we said when we said our security was tied in to their security and that we would stand in unison in the face of common danger.

Now, we are doing that. We are doing it against whoever combines out there to promote aggression. We are going to do whatever we think is necessary to protect the security of South Vietnam—and let those people determine for themselves what kind of a government they have.

We think they are moving along very quickly in that direction to developing a democratic procedure.

Third, we are going to do whatever it is necessary to do to see that the aggressor does not succeed.

Those are our purposes. Those are our goals. We are going to get a lot of advice to do this or to do that. We are going to consider it all. But for years West Point has been turning out the best military men produced anywhere in the world.

For years we have had in our Foreign Service trained and specialized people. We have in 110 capitals today the best brains we can select.

Under our constitutional arrangements the President must look to his Secretary of State, to his foreign policy, to his Ambassadors, to the cables and views that they

express, to his leaders like the Joint Chiefs of Staff, and to General Westmoreland and others—and carefully consider everything they say and then do what he thinks is right.

That is not always going to please a county commissioner, or a mayor, or a member of a legislature. It never has in any war we have ever been in been a favorite of the Senate.

The leaders on the military committees and the leaders in other posts have frequently opposed it.

Champ Clark, the Speaker of the House, opposed the draft in Woodrow Wilson's administration. The Chairman of the Foreign Relations Committee—with the exception of Senator Vandenberg—almost invariably has found a great deal wrong with the Executive in the field of foreign policy.

There is a division there, and there is some frustration there.

Those men express it and they have a right to. They have a duty to do it.

But it is also the President's duty to look and see what substance they have presented; how much they thought it out; what information they have; how much knowledge they have received from General Westmoreland or Ambassador Bunker, whoever it is; how familiar they are with what is going on; and whether you really think you ought to follow their judgment or follow the judgment of the other people.

I do that every day. Some days I have to say to our people: "Let us try this plan that Senator X has suggested." And we do.

We are doing that with the United Nations resolution. We have tried several times to get the United Nations to play a part in trying to bring peace in Vietnam.

The Senate thinks that this is the way to do it. More than 50 of them have signed a resolution.

The Senate Foreign Relations Committee

had a big day yesterday. They reported two resolutions in one day.

I have my views. I have my views about really what those resolutions will achieve. But I also have an obligation to seriously and carefully consider the judgments of the other branch of the Government. And we are going to do it.

Even though we may have some doubts about what will be accomplished, that they think may be accomplished, if it is a close question we will bend to try to meet their views because we think that is important.

We have already tried the United Nations

before, but we may try it again because they have hopes and they believe that this is the answer. We will do everything that we can to make it the answer.

I don't want to hurt its chances by giving any predictions at this moment.

We will consider the views that everyone suggests.

Merriman Smith, United Press International: Thank you, Mr. President.

NOTE: President Johnson's one hundred and fourteenth news conference was held in the East Room at the White House at 11 a.m. on Friday, November 17, 1967. It was broadcast live on radio and television.

496 Remarks Delivered by Telephone to the Centennial Convention of the National Grange. November 18, 1967

National Master Newsom, honored guests, and my good friends of the National Grange:

I am pleased and honored to be privileged to take part in your centennial convention.

Your organization has a great leader—my close friend, Herschel Newsom. It does not matter whether the issue is our commitment in Vietnam, or a tax increase to head off the costly tax of inflation, or import quotas that threaten our agricultural exports—Herschel Newsom and the great National Grange organization have always chosen the course of responsibility. And for this, as your President, I am profoundly grateful.

This has been the history of the Grange through all of its hundred years of responsible citizenship of constructive, affirmative leadership. The Grange belongs to the class of people whom I like to call builders in America. It is easy enough always to complain and to be critical of what others do, especially with the benefit of hindsight. It is much more difficult to help find a true course through all the problems that beset

us. The Grange has traditionally sought to attain its ends through the vigorous pursuit of affirmative goals. In fact, it has been my observation that you have always been so busy building that you have not had much time to waste on quarreling with those whose stock in trade seems to be hating and tearing down.

I remember a favorite expression of former Speaker Sam Rayburn, who once said: "Any donkey can kick a barn down. It takes a good carpenter to build one."

So yours—as builders—is the blessed way and the world is far better for having people like you among us.

I like to think that you and I have some things in common—a love of the soil and of the open sky, an urge to make things grow, a fascination of the challenge of wind and weather, a spiritual sustenance from the wonders of nature as they are revealed to us upon our farms. I must confess that sometimes I envy you—and at times I would say more than others—because you can spend more time on your farms than I can spend

on mine. At least that is the way it is just now.

Another thing that we have in common is a concern about farm income, and my concern about that is perhaps even greater than yours; because as President I cannot help but be deeply concerned about the many millions of people who live on farms who are now not able to earn a decent living. I am glad to be able to say that I believe this situation should be improved and I hope is improving, but I know it is not improving fast enough.

We all know that the pattern of the continuing revolution in America in agriculture is a technological revolution where the ability to produce continues to outrun our ability to consume. It has been this way most of the time for more than 40 years. The result has been all too often depressed prices and financial distress. No way has been found to cope with this problem except through programs of the Federal Government.

Some of you are old enough to remember, as I remember, the long, hard fight it took to gain acceptance of this Federal responsibility. Indeed, there are those in our country today who don't accept this as a Federal responsibility even yet—and there are far too many that wish we had no Federal farm program of any kind.

I wish it to be clear that I, as President, fully accept the Federal responsibility to help maintain farm income at reasonable and stable levels. The Federal Government cannot do the whole job. The farmer must do his part. But the programs required are of such large size that they just cannot be successfully operated unless the strong Federal Government makes available the machinery—the machinery through which the farmers can operate their farm programs.

Having accepted this responsibility, how

well have we done in meeting it? Not nearly as well as I would like—because the average farmer still finds himself earning only two-thirds as much as city people earn. And many of you know from your own experience that it is still quite a struggle to make ends meet—to keep expenses from outrunning income. Yet the record does show some progress.

Average net income per farm in 1967 is running 56 percent above 1960. It is somewhat less than 1966 when net income per farm reached an alltime high in our Nation's history, and this setback this year is disappointing to every single one of us. I hope and I believe that this setback is quite temporary. I shall do my best to make it temporary and I hope you will help me in that effort.

The record since 1960 does prove that progress can be made—we made a 56 percent increase. The record since 1960 does show that surpluses can be eliminated—they have been, generally speaking. The record since 1960 does show that farm income can be increased. But this progress can be continued only if our programs are continued. These programs, I warn you, are under constant daily attack in the press and behind the podium.

In the present Congress that we are dealing with here in Washington at this moment, there are no less than 21 bills already introduced that would kill—that would terminate—existing farm programs.

I shall be counting upon your strong support to see that these attacks do not prevail. I want you to keep the farmers in business at least until I can join you full time.

I am proud of what you are doing for your country. I am proud of what you are doing to make America strong and to feed the hungry people of the world. This country owes a lot to the farmer:

- American agriculture, I honestly believe, is the envy of all the nations on earth.
- You have provided food and fiber to this Nation and to its allies through world war and international conflict.
- You—you have saved the lives of millions around the world who would have starved in the absence of American food aid shipped from the United States.
- You have made Americans the healthiest, best fed people in the history of the world, and you have done it at a cost that the average person could easily afford.
- You have provided the largest, single contribution to world trade of any single segment of our economy.

I point these things out so that you know that we do care about you and what happens to you, and what is happening to you. At the same time, I salute you for these accomplishments, and I thank you for all that you have done.

Most of all, I ask your continued help in the tasks that lie ahead in the job that all of us have to do—a job that will give us better prices, that will give us better income,

that will try to hold our costs where the people can have an incentive to stay on the farm.

Our biggest problem today is the people who have left the farms to go to the cities, without any skills to use in the cities. We are spending hundreds of millions of dollars trying to deal with that problem. How happier we would probably all be if we could have spent that money in preventive medicine before they left the farm.

So I am going to be here trying to correct some of the mistakes that have been made. I am going to be here trying to preserve our farm programs, and to preserve a good, healthy condition for the American farmer. With your help and with your support, I believe we can succeed.

I want to thank you, Herschel Newsom, again. You will always be welcome—you and your organization—in the White House as long as I am here.

Thank you very much.

NOTE: The President spoke at 1:13 p.m. from the Cabinet Room at the White House to the convention of the national farm group at Syracuse, N.Y. In his opening words he referred to Herschel Newsom, National Master of the Grange.

497 Statement by the President on the Devaluation of the British Pound. *November 18, 1967*

THE GOVERNMENT of the United Kingdom today announced its decision to change the par value of the pound sterling from \$2.80 to \$2.40. I know this decision was made with great reluctance, and I understand the powerful reasons that made it necessary under the circumstances.

The nations of the free world are united in their determination to keep the international monetary system strong.

The United States will continue to meet

its international monetary responsibilities. I reaffirm unequivocally the commitment of the United States to buy and sell gold at the existing price of \$35 an ounce.

The British have worked hard over a number of years to correct their trade deficit. It has now become clear to the British authorities and the International Monetary Fund that the United Kingdom was faced with a fundamental imbalance which called for an adjustment in the exchange rate. This has

now been carried out in accordance with the regular procedures of the International Monetary Fund.

I believe the United Kingdom will—at the new parity—achieve the needed improve-

ment in its ability to compete in world markets. The attainment of equilibrium by the United Kingdom will be a healthy and constructive development in international financial markets.

498 Remarks at a Ceremony Marking the Birth of the 200 Millionth American. *November 20, 1967*

Secretary Trowbridge, Dr. Eckler, ladies and gentlemen:

I understand that the Census Bureau misses some people in its count and the 200 millionth American was really born some time ago. As it happens, a few weeks ago I selected a commission to do a little study to find out actually who that lucky baby was. Surprisingly enough, when they ran through all the computer tapes, they found that he was born on June 21st, at Seaton Hospital in Austin, Texas.

Back when our country began, in 1776, there were around 2½ million Americans in this land—in the Thirteen Colonies—about the same number of people who live in Brooklyn today.

The first time an American census counted heads on this continent—in 1790—there were not quite 4 million of us then. That is about the population of Detroit today.

As the years passed—and as our numbers climbed to 200 million—we began to work out a new idea of man and nation on this continent. We said that all men—of all ethnic backgrounds, of all religions, of all races—ought to be free—ought to be truly free—to stand as tall as they could stand.

To an unparalleled degree, I think we have been succeeding in that objective.

We see a nation today that is rapidly approaching the time when more of her young people will be attending college than will not.

That is a most revolutionary concept in the history of man.

We see a nation of unimagined wealth and increasing opportunity for most of our people. Sometimes we forget that the term “middle class” used to be a term that described a small minority.

But today we see a nation that is ready to fly to the moon and ready to explore the depths of the ocean. We see a nation that, having begun its own climb up the mountain, has neither forgotten nor has it forsaken those people throughout the world who want to grow and who want to prosper in their own ways.

We see a nation that is catapulted to world leadership: a nation that has exercised leadership without thought of conquest or without thought of enrichment, but with only the thought to establish a free and a stable world for ourselves and for other human beings who live in that world.

To put it in a sentence, we have seen success in America beyond all of our wildest dreams.

And we owe it to ourselves, I think, to note and to remember that—as we welcome this 200 millionth American into our midst on the eve of our third century as a nation, that if we only congratulate ourselves on what we have done, we will really miss its meaning, which was that for 200 years our people constantly said: “Make this Nation better. Work

for the future. Don't quit until the doors are open to everybody."

We have asked ourselves three fundamental questions in the past 200 years.

At the beginning, we said, "Shall we be a free nation?" A hundred years ago we asked ourselves, "Shall we be one nation?" Thirty-five years ago we asked ourselves, "Shall we then be a humane nation?"

We answered each of these questions once. But once was not enough. They had to be answered again and again by each succeeding generation.

To this hour the answer has always been the same: The answer has been "Yes." "Shall we be a free nation? Shall we be one nation?" "We shall be free. We shall be one nation. We shall be a humane nation. We shall be a responsible people."

Now we are coming to grips with the fourth question. It may be the hardest one of all of the four. It may be the most difficult one we have ever tried to answer. But the fourth question is "Shall we be a great nation?"

That is the question for the third century—and for the next 100 million Americans.

We know we are going to be an urban people for a long time to come. What about the quality of life, then, for the millions who are going to inhabit the cities of the future? If it is good—if it is life-enhancing—then we may be a great nation. But we are going to find a lot of answers to a lot of hard questions before we are sure we are going to be a great nation.

We know that our young people get more schooling than any other young people in all the world, but we have not yet seen whether mass education in America can really be quality education, too.

We know that two races can live in the same country, but we have not seen yet that

they can live constructively and that they can live harmoniously among each other in the same country.

We know that we can produce the steel and the cars and the chemicals to make us a mighty powerful and wealthy nation. But we have not yet seen that we can keep our air and our water pure and healthy while we do it.

We know that we can tame the wilds of nature so that men can farm them and can build upon them. But we do not know yet that we can preserve the wilds of nature so that city men and their families may know the release and the refreshment of the earth as it was made.

We know that we can, if we will, provide decent housing for all American families, and thus transform our cities. But we do not yet know how to help people find a sense of community in the impersonal life of cities.

So those are just a few of the challenges that will confront us as we go from 200 million Americans to 300 million Americans—as we begin our third century of life in this land. They are mighty challenges that are hurled at us by the past and by the very swift march of progress in this country.

I wish I could, but I cannot tell you this morning that we are going to be able to meet successfully all of these challenges. I can only tell you that when men are free, and that when men are prosperous, and when people are educated as they are in America—it does seem sense to me for them to try; for them to plan; for them to work for progress—and not just for progress—but to work for greatness.

That is what we are trying so hard to do with your help.

Thank you very much.

NOTE: The President spoke at 10:57 a.m. in the main lobby at the Department of Commerce. In

his opening words he referred to Alexander B. Trowbridge, Secretary of Commerce, and Dr. A. Ross Eckler, Director, Bureau of the Census. Early in his

remarks he referred to his grandson, Patrick Lyndon Nugent, who was born on June 21, 1967 (see Item 273).

499 Remarks Upon Signing Bill Establishing the National Commission on Product Safety. November 20, 1967

Secretary Trowbridge, distinguished Members of the Senate and the House, ladies and gentlemen:

We have come here this morning to sign a bill that will help everyone in this room and, I think, everyone in our country. This is a bill not just for the rich, not just for the poor, but for all 200 million Americans.

We just counted the 200 millionth over at Secretary Trowbridge's department a few moments ago.

Actually, some time ago I appointed a commission to try to discover when that 200 millionth child was born and from the report that appears to have been leaked, he was born on June 21st in Seaton Hospital in Austin, Texas.

As those of you who are here this morning know, technology has brought us many blessings in this country. But many of them are booby-trapped. Far too many of them cause us great tragedy and present great hazards to us in this 20th century.

The homes that we live in can really be more dangerous than a boobytrapped mine field in the battle area.

One hundred and twenty-five thousand Americans are injured by faulty heating devices each year. Many of these victims of the faulty heating devices are the very young who cannot protect themselves, and the very old who are sometimes helpless.

I just wonder about the marvels of this age when I recognize that 94 percent of our people have TV's, and I see how many are occasionally injured on the highway, and I

see how many are occasionally wounded on the battlefield—although they didn't even stop to be hospitalized—that is presented to us on the screen.

I wonder if it wouldn't be good to remind ourselves of the 125,000 each year who are injured by faulty heating devices; or

—the 100,000 who are hurt and maimed each year by faulty power mowers or faulty washing machines; or

—the 100,000 each year, mostly little children, who have their limbs crushed by the automatic clothes wringers; or

—the 40,000 each year who are gashed when they fall through a glass door; or

—the 30,000 who are shocked and burned by defective wall sockets and extension cords.

—And there are just so many other dozens of thousands that we don't know anything about because they either didn't know what did it or it wasn't reported.

So this summarizes the fact that we live each day and each hour surrounded by a great many hazards that we know nothing about. The most innocent product can sometimes bring great injury. The electric knife, for instance, that is going to carve our Thanksgiving turkey could injure a member of our family this Thanksgiving. The Christmas tree could flame and kill a whole family.

This adds up to saying that we have lived too dangerously too long. So we have come here this morning to try to accentuate and stress that we are going to put safety first.

We have acted to stop tragedy before that

tragedy strikes. We are establishing a National Commission on Product Safety. That is the first commission of this type to ever be established in this country.

This Commission has primarily three vital jobs to do:

- First, to tell us which products are dangerous so we will know how to be on guard and how to protect ourselves.
- Second, to tell us how good our present laws are—if they are good, or how bad they are—Federal, State, and local laws.
- Third, to tell us what steps we should and what steps we must take to protect our children and our families from the hazards that occur in the home.

I want this Commission to come up and make recommendations that are solid, that are solutions. I don't want just another statistical study group.

I want it to act in the national interest in the name of American consumers—in the name of American business, because business is threatened, too, by the hazard of unfair competition from unsafe products.

Now, this happens to be the first major consumer law that I have signed this year. I don't want to blame anybody—and I am not going to call anybody's name—but it ought to be the 12th consumer law. I hope that in due time we will be signing all 12 of them.

We have been here almost 12 months. We have observed all of our holidays. We worked hard on a lot of other legislation. But this is the first major consumer law that the Congress has passed this year, and that the President has signed. We need many others. And we need them now. We ought to have had them already.

We need the strongest possible meat inspection bill. Nobody in this country ought to ever take a chance on eating filthy meat from

filthy packinghouses—it doesn't make any difference how powerful the meat lobby is.

We need legislation to insure pipeline safety for people living in the areas where natural gas pipelines run. We don't want gas-filled pipes bursting in our homes and our streets, causing a major tragedy, before we wake up and pass a law that will protect us from that.

Now, I know it is natural that the gas pipelines have some reservations in that field. But they will be the first ones begging after a terrible tragedy explodes upon them. So we ought to take the time now and pass that kind of legislation.

We need a truth-in-lending bill. It passed the Senate some time ago. Interest rates are going up every day. They will be going up more as a result of the financial crisis that has come about through the devaluation of the pound.

Although the Senate acted, and acted promptly, that legislation is still in committee. It ought to be reported and ought to be passed, because people in this country are paying usurious rates of interest, and the poor people pay the highest rates, usually. The poorer you are, the higher your money costs are.

We need to protect our families against fabrics that flame—burst into flames—without any warning—and without the family having any knowledge.

We need to crack down on the con man, the gyp who preys on the aged and who preys on the defenseless. Some of our parents save up all of their lives to buy a little home for retirement. Then some swindler comes along and gets hold of them. They wind up in a useless swamp with a piece of no-good land, or they wind up in a worthless shack.

We are producing the best social security

bills that this Nation has ever seen—the Senate is considering one now; I hope Congress passes the Senate bill; I hope it passes it today or tomorrow. I hope the conferees will get together and let no holidays or anything else come between us, so we can put that social security bill, as we recommended it and as the Senate has reported it, on the books.

There are millions of old people in this country sitting, waiting, and wondering what is going to happen. So I hope we can do this. All of these bills we need. We need them badly. I hope some time I can ask you to come back here to attend another signing ceremony. We don't raid the Treasury with any of them. Most of them cost very little and save very much. There is no field in this country that needs legislation more today than this one.

I am happy and proud that Miss Betty Furness and the women of this country are becoming aroused, and the Congress is awakening to its responsibility, and the executive branch of the Government is trying to provide some leadership to give us desirable consumer legislation.

I think the delay of this legislation is bad. But we can pass it and we ought to. It is urgent. It is a magnificent opportunity now for responsible men and women of this country to look at these various measures and try to get behind them.

The legislation costs the taxpayers prac-

tically nothing, but the blessings will bring us safety of life, safety of limb, peace of mind, peace of heart. These are possessions beyond price for every family in this land. They await our answer. We are going to be graded on how well we do the job.

In a few months or a few years our people are going to look back at our meat inspection, our truth-in-lending, our gas safety, our flammable fabrics, and all of these things that are crying now for attention. They are going to take out a check card and say, "Where were we? How did we stand? What did we do?"

We can't use the argument that they cost too much because there is very little cost involved.

It gives me great pride to say to the Congress and to say to the people who sponsored this legislation, who helped bring it about, that I welcome it this morning and I will welcome the other 12 measures just as soon as we can get them.

Thank you very much.

NOTE: The President spoke at 11:37 a.m. in the East Room at the White House. In his opening words he referred to Secretary of Commerce Alexander B. Trowbridge.

As enacted, the bill (S.J. Res. 33) is Public Law 90-146 (81 Stat. 466).

For remarks by the President upon signing other consumer legislation, see Items 520, 539, 541. For consumer bills referred to by the President but not enacted during the first session of the 90th Congress, see note to Item 575.

500 Remarks to the Press on Making Public the Report of the National Advisory Commission on Health Manpower.

November 20, 1967

Ladies and gentlemen:

We have met with Mr. Miller, his Staff Director, and others associated with the Commission, and reviewed this report that is

being made public today in some detail, with the entire membership of the Cabinet.

I thought that was required. I believe the report should be required reading by all

of the Cabinet members. I hope they can study it and bring me their recommendations at a very early date.

We are very concerned with the health of our people in this country—and their health security. We have pending before the Congress—and have had most of this year—one of the most comprehensive and one of the most far-reaching social security measures that has ever been proposed in this country. It raises the monthly benefit to individuals to \$70 a month. That is the minimum.

It provides for an across-the-board increase of 15 percent to the social security beneficiaries. It has vital, important changes which would result in a total increase of payments averaging 20 percent.

It contains extremely important provisions for providing incentives—and this is very important—incentives for better service and more efficient service in the health care industry.

I do not need to remind you of my intense interest in health services, in health care, and in health programs in this country. We have passed some 24 major health bills in the last 4 years—perhaps more than passed in all other administrations put together.

I have asked Mr. Miller and the Staff Director, Dr. Peter Bing, to come here today and have Dr. Bing and Mr. Miller brief you.

Now a word to the members of the Commission themselves: I know how many long hours of work and study went into this report. I repeat the expression of gratitude that I made at the Cabinet meeting the other day to you, Mr. Miller, and all the members of your Commission.

I think that your report can move us much closer to our national goal, which is good health care for every citizen, high quality and efficient health care.

I think we all recognize that we spend

millions each year for medical research in NIH and in the other great laboratories of the Nation. I think we all realize that America leads the way in medical research, but all that work and all of those dollars are worthless unless every American citizen can have some benefit from this medical research.

That is why I think this report is so important to every American. I observed in reviewing the report that you make one thing quite clear: that Government is not big enough to solve the problem of health care. I want to reemphasize that this morning.

I am glad you said it. I certainly agree with it. I want it to be a taking-off point so we can get other people besides the Government in on this job. The Government will do its full share. It is doing that **starting right now** insofar as I am concerned.

I am asking every department of this Government concerned with health care to carefully evaluate and study every one of these recommendations and make a report back to the President with a full comment on them.

But I want to ask the Commission members to do another job: I want to make sure that this report goes to somebody besides the Government agencies.

I hope that you will do what you can, and you will, before you leave here, evaluate and try to plan how we can get this report into the private sector, how we can get it to all the educators, how we can get it to all the molders of public opinion, how we can get it to all the hospital officials concerned with it, how we can get it to the insurance companies, how we can make it available to the doctors, how we can mail it out, how we can start discussions, how we can get it on everyone's tongue.

It is not something that is involved with

a great tragedy. It is not anything sensational. Therefore, it is not going to make the big headlines that we have come to expect. But the information in this report is something that needs very much to be disseminated. I hope that you will give some thought to that.

I can only add that in all the commissions that we have appointed, and they are legion—Mr. Miller is Chairman and Mr. Beirne of the Communications Workers; Mrs. Bunting of Radcliffe College; Dr. James C. Cain of the Mayo Clinic; Dr. Dent of Dillard University; Dr. Ebert of Harvard Medical School; Mr. Freeman, vice chairman of the board of the First National Bank of Chicago; Mr. Kermit Gordon, president of the Brookings Institution—one of the best Budget Directors we have ever had; Dr. Russell Nelson of the Johns Hopkins Hospital; Mr. Quigg Newton, president of the Commonwealth Fund; Mr. Odegaard, president of the University of Washington in Seattle; Mr. Thomas Vail, publisher of the Cleveland Plain Dealer; Dr. Joseph F. Volker, vice president for health affairs at the University of Alabama; Dr. Dwight L. Wilbur, clinical professor of medicine at Stanford University and president-elect of

the American Medical Association; and Dr. Alonzo S. Yerby, director of the Inter-Faculty Program on Health and Medical Care, Harvard School of Public Health, Boston—you have done what I believe is an unusual and outstanding job. You had little reward.

I don't know that this is much more, but I do want you to know that you have the gratitude and the appreciation of your President. I think in due time it will be very clear to you that you have rendered a great service to humanity and to the people of America. I thank you in advance.

NOTE: The President spoke at 12 noon in the East Room at the White House.

Publication of Volume I of the two-volume "Report of the National Advisory Commission on Health Manpower" (Government Printing Office, 95 pp.) was also announced in a concurrent White House statement which listed the members of the Commission. The statement is printed in the Weekly Compilation of Presidential Documents (vol. 3, p. 1603), together with the text of the press briefing held by J. Irwin Miller, Chairman, and Dr. Peter S. Bing, Executive Director of the Commission.

The Commission was established, together with the President's Committee on Health Manpower, by Executive Order 11279 of May 7, 1966 (2 Weekly Comp. Pres. Docs., p. 621; 31 F.R. 6947; 3 CFR, 1966 Comp., p. 110). For the President's statement on that occasion, see 1966 volume, this series, Book I, Item 208 and note.

501 Statement by the President on the Fourth Anniversary of the Death of John F. Kennedy. *November 20, 1967*

IT IS now 4 years since the unbelievable tragedy of John Kennedy's death.

The men and women he inspired, the ideas he stimulated, advanced, and manifested in his own life, still strengthen the Republic.

John Kennedy's legacy to his Nation is

one of courage in adversity; of tolerance in a time of passionate conviction; of steadfastness and loyalty in an hour of trial. Millions of Americans bear that legacy in their hearts today.

502 Remarks at a Dinner Honoring Senator Everett McKinley Dirksen. November 20, 1967

Senator Dirksen, Senator Mansfield, Mr. McGinnis, distinguished head table guests, my friends and fellow agents:

I am delighted to be here for several reasons.

For one thing, I heard that many Members of Congress would be here tonight, and I thought I would honor an old OSS tradition by dropping in behind the enemy lines.

For another, the man whom you honored tonight is often accused of being my fifth column on the Hill. I want all of you to know that Everett Dirksen is the only column I haven't complained about all year long.

Of course, there are times when I think Senator Dirksen is a double agent. But I am comforted to know that Gerry Ford sometimes thinks so, too.

During World War II, when "Wild Bill" Donovan was operating with the OSS, there was a saying: "Things are so confused here in Washington, not even the spies know what to report."

I think that is still true on Capitol Hill. Sometimes when I hear the reports of what is happening up there, I feel like the spy who came in out of the cold.

But only in America could a Senator be the guest of honor at a cloak-and-dagger dinner.

But then there is only one Everett Dirksen in America.

He is uniquely qualified for your award. He carries his actor's cloak wherever he goes and there is always a dagger buried in his prose.

You see, Everett, I can rhyme a little myself.

But my final reason for coming here tonight is a very personal one. I wanted very much to share your salute to those who followed Bill Donovan.

The OSS was a very small and inconspicuous and incredibly brave elite. They remind me very much of my own followers who had their cover blown in the last Harris poll.

We Americans naturally take our institutions for granted.

We assume freedom of speech, freedom of press, and of opposition as constants in the political equation.

It is right that we do so. One of the finest qualities of American society is that our habits of freedom are so deeply ingrained—the defense of free speech so automatic.

Is there really any easier way to get a headline these days than to shout that one has been gagged?

The trouble is that in taking freedom for granted we often forget how revolutionary a concept is involved in the constitutional protection of the right of opposition.

Even in our Anglo-Saxon legal tradition, opposition was until a few centuries ago considered treason.

It was unthinkable that one could oppose but not betray.

And this distinction is, unfortunately, still not made in many nations of the world. Can any Communist state match, for example, the record of the Republic of Vietnam in turning to its people for the brand

of legitimacy—success in free, competitive elections?

So tonight, in America and in other free nations, the opposition doesn't exist on tolerance. It has an independent vitality and a persistent disregard for any "official truths."

The Republicans have been known to win elections, and my friend Senator Dirksen has been working very hard to become Majority Leader of the United States Senate. So far, I am pleased to report in my very partisan capacity, that the American people have shared my view that he is ideally equipped for the task of opposition.

In fact, he is so well equipped that I am now trying to get him civil service tenure as Minority Leader of the United States Senate.

But I have had a terrible time getting him cleared with the Civil Service Commission which insists that he stop making recordings to prevent conflict of interest.

Quite seriously, my friends, I think all Americans should appreciate the problems of the leader of the opposition—as well as the temptations.

I know—because I have been there.

The problem is to stand firmly with the administration on a foundation of common idealism, while dissenting from those measures which do not fulfill these ideals.

In other words, the first allegiance of any American is to our heritage—to its protection—to its preservation and to its enlargement.

As George Washington put it in his Farewell Address: "The name of American, which belongs to you in your national capacity, must always exalt the just pride of patriotism. . . . With slight shades of difference, you have the same religion, manners, habits, and political principles. You have in a common cause fought and triumphed together. The independence and liberty you possess

are the work of joint councils and joint efforts; of common dangers, sufferings, and successes."

But at the same time, he must be loyal to the obligations of our free, competitive party system, the duties of partisanship

—which is the dynamo of our democracy,
—which denies that truth is a monopoly held by a privileged few,

—which insists that real issues be raised in their most vigorous terms for decision by the sovereign electorate.

These are the responsibilities of the opposition.

And I believe you will all agree with me that Senator Everett Dirksen has fulfilled them with very rare talent and great dedication.

I say this in the full knowledge that he has in the past felt that a number of my proposals were less than divinely inspired—a habit that I am afraid he will retain no matter how many nice things I might say about him here tonight.

And I want all of you to know, too, that I have known that awful feeling that comes when the votes are counted in the United States Senate and there is Ev smiling that cherubic smile.

This is perhaps the time for me to deny flatly the rumor that I like to lose, or that I really enjoy criticism.

I don't like to lose, not even to Ev Dirksen. What I can enjoy is criticism with no votes behind it.

Regretfully—I must add—that is not Everett Dirksen's specialty.

If Senator Dirksen has established his reputation for fulfilling the duties of partisanship, he has also quite avoided the temptations of irresponsibility.

From my own memory I can draw on episode after episode where opportunities

existed to score fancy points on a Republican President named Dwight D. Eisenhower.

No one is really equipped to measure his own moral metabolism and it may be on occasion that I succumbed sometimes to that temptation. We all wrestle with our consciences and too often we win.

But when it was all over I received a tribute which I think I cherish above all others. President Eisenhower said of me that he valued our friendship. But much more important—in institutional terms—he said: “In perspective, he was far more helpful than obstructive. . . . For this I was grateful.”

I value this not because of the President’s personal sentiments—though I was, of course, pleased that the President thought of me as a friend.

I value it because I think it also sets forth the proper relationship between the President of the United States and the leader of his opponents in the United States Senate.

So I came here tonight to echo this combination of both personal esteem and institutional respect.

It is a very great pleasure for me to join the veterans of the Strategic Services in honoring my beloved friend, Senator Everett Dirksen—for no one—no one—has excelled his strategic service to the cause of freedom in the world and to the maintenance of our tradition of very responsible partisanship here at home.

He is a great American. He is a great human being. He is one of my dearest friends.

NOTE: The President spoke at 7:55 p.m. in the Main Ballroom at the Mayflower Hotel in Washington. In his opening words he referred to Senator Everett McKinley Dirksen of Illinois, Minority Leader of the Senate, Senator Mike Mansfield of Montana, Majority Leader of the Senate, and Edward F. McGinnis, member of the William J. Donovan Medal Committee. During his remarks he referred to Representative Gerald R. Ford of Michigan, Minority Leader of the House of Representatives.

The Medal, presented to Senator Dirksen at the dinner, has been awarded annually since 1962 to that individual who most typifies the spirit and ideals of William J. Donovan, Director of the Office of Strategic Services during World War II. Other recipients of the Medal have been Allen Dulles, John J. McCloy, Lt. Gen. William W. Quinn, Gen. Dwight D. Eisenhower, and Earl Louis Mountbatten of the United Kingdom.

503 Remarks Upon Signing the Air Quality Act of 1967.

November 21, 1967

I DEEPLY APPRECIATE your patience and I plead for your understanding. But this is the last day that I will have an opportunity to visit with General Westmoreland, Ambassador Bunker, and Mr. Komer, and others.

We started out at 8 o’clock this morning and we have been running a little late. But each one of them is trying to get everything on their agenda reviewed before they leave.

So I am a little behind time, but I am grateful to you for whatever understanding you can give me.

I would like to begin this morning by reading you a little weather report:

“. . . dirty water and black snow pour from the dismal air to . . . the putrid slush that waits for them below.”

Now that is not a description of Boston, Chicago, New York, or even Washington, D.C. It is from Dante’s “Inferno,” a 600-year-old vision of damnation.

But doesn’t it sound familiar?

Isn’t it a forecast that fits almost any large American city today?

I think those like Secretary Gardner and

Senator Muskie, and all you Members of the Congress and the Cabinet who have worked with this subject would agree with that.

Don't we really risk our own damnation every day by destroying the air that gives us life?

I think we do. We have done it with our science, our industry, and our progress. Above all, we have really done it with our own carelessness—our own continued indifference and our own repeated negligence.

Contaminated air began in this country as a big-city problem. But in just a few years, the gray pall of pollution has spread throughout the Nation. Today its threat hangs everywhere—and it is still spreading.

Today we are pouring at least 130 million tons of poison into the air each year. That is two-thirds of a ton for every man, woman, and child that lives in America.

And tomorrow the picture looks even blacker. By 1980, we will have a third more people living in our cities than are living there today. We will have 40 percent more automobiles and trucks. And we will be burning half again as much fuel.

That leaves us, according to my evaluation, only one real choice. Either we stop poisoning our air—or we become a nation in gas masks, groping our way through the dying cities and a wilderness of ghost towns that the people have evacuated.

We make our choice with the bill that we are going to sign very shortly. It is not the first clean air bill—but it is, I think, the best.

I am indebted to all of you who had a part in its fashioning.

Congress passed the Clean Air Act in 1963. I signed it to establish the Government's obligation and to establish the Government's authority to act forcefully against air pollution.

Two years later we amended that act. Standards were set in 1965 to control automobile pollution.

These were important steps. But they were really, as Senator Muskie has reminded us many times, just really baby steps. Today we grow up to our responsibilities. This new Air Quality Act lets us face up to our problem as we have never faced up before.

In the next 3 years, it will authorize more funds to combat air pollution—more funds in the next 3 years to combat air pollution—than we have spent on this subject in the entire Nation's history of 180 years.

It will give us scientific answers to our most baffling problem: how to get the sulphur out of our fuel—and how to keep it out of our air.

It will give Secretary Gardner new power to stop pollution before it chokes our children and before it strangles our elderly—before it drives us into a hospital bed.

It will help our States fight pollution in the only practical way—by regional airshed controls—by giving the Federal Government standby power to intervene if and when States rights do not always function efficiently.

It will help our States to control the number one source of pollution—our automobiles.

But for all that it will do, the Air Quality Act will never end pollution. It is a law—and not a magic wand to wave that will cleanse our skies. It is a law whose ultimate power and final effectiveness really rests out there with the people of this land—on our seeing the damnation that awaits us if the people do not act responsibly to avoid it and to curb it.

Last January, in asking Congress to pass this legislation, I had this to say:

"This situation does not exist because it

was inevitable, nor because it cannot be controlled. Air pollution is the inevitable consequence of neglect. It can be controlled when that neglect is no longer tolerated.

"It will be controlled when the people of America, through their elected representatives, demand the right to air that they and their children can breathe without fear."

So, let us then strengthen that demand from this moment on. Let us seize the new powers of this new law to end a long, dark night of neglect.

Let our children say, when they look back on this day, that it was here that a sleeping giant—it was here that their Nation awoke. It was here that America turned away from damnation, and found salvation in reclaiming God's blessings of fresh air and clean sky.

We are distressed at the condition that we cannot at the moment find the solution for—our men dying on the battlefields.

We are troubled with the economic international uncertainties and deficits here at home. But, there are many things that we can do and that we must do in this 20th century that have not been done in the two centuries that have gone by.

I talked yesterday about some of the protections that this century requires for the consumers of this country. We have 12 measures that we have recommended and most of them are moving along. There is no reason why anyone in this country ought to be permitted to eat dirty, diseased, filthy meat and it is not going to bankrupt the Treasury to bring a stop to that.

There is no reason why anyone in this country should not know how much interest they are paying. So, we can have a truth-lending bill. The poorest people are paying the highest interest. We ought to act there. It is not going to bankrupt the Treasury.

There is no reason in the world why a baby ought to be put in a blanket and burned up. We ought to take some steps to protect them from all these casualties.

I feel the same way in this general field.

All the Members of Congress whom I am looking at—I would call every one of your names if I had them—some of you tell me you are coming and don't make it—some of you say you won't come here and then you are here. So, when I start calling your names I am embarrassed.

However, I am indebted to everyone—beginning with the first man on the row and going down to attractive Edna Kelly, then, going over here and seeing the Cabinet members and Congressmen who worked on this—for what you are doing to keep our air clean and to keep our water pure, and to give our children a place where they can go and play without having their lungs filled with disease.

I sat with a great person, one of the greatest products of this land. I suffered with him not long ago because he could hardly utter a full sentence without coughing and choking because of the effects of what he had breathed and what had gone into his body from residence here in this town.

Senator Muskie has been shoving me as no other person has, all these years, to do something in the pollution field.

I remember an old man told me when I came to Washington, he said, "Son, you get ready. If you are going to live in this town you are either going to be shoving somebody or somebody is going to be shoving you."

So, when I see influential Senators, chairmen of committees like Senator Randolph and other Members of Congress here this morning, I want to shove you.

It may not cost you \$1 billion for the things we are shoving because we are going to have

to watch those expenditures with the way things are developing. But we can purify our water. We can clean up our air. We can give protection to our babies and to our old folks.

We can mark how much we are paying on some of these things. We can clean up our diseased meats.

I think actually we will find it is pretty profitable if we deal with this question of disease. I expect we lose more from it than it would cost us to protect ourselves against it.

So, I appeal to you to try to do your best to get us those 12 consumer bills. If you can't pass them just exactly as we recommend, we will understand. Just give us 90 percent this

year and we will come back next year—if we are all here—for the other 10 percent.

NOTE: The President spoke at 11:56 a.m. in the East Room at the White House. During his remarks he referred to Gen. William C. Westmoreland, Commander, United States Military Assistance Command, Vietnam, Ellsworth Bunker, U.S. Ambassador to the Republic of Vietnam, Robert W. Komer, Special Assistant to the President for Peaceful Reconstruction in Vietnam, John W. Gardner, Secretary of Health, Education, and Welfare, Senator Edmund S. Muskie of Maine, Senator Jennings Randolph of West Virginia, and Representative Edna F. Kelly of New York.

As enacted, the bill (S. 780) is Public Law 90-148 (81 Stat. 485).

For the President's remarks upon signing the Clean Air Act, see 1963-64 volume, this series, Book I, Item 50. For his message to the Congress on the protection of the Nation's natural heritage, in which he proposed the Air Quality Act, see Item 20, above.

504 Memorandum Urging Continued Improvement of Programs in Aid of Small Business. *November 22, 1967*

Memorandum for Honorable Robert S. McNamara, Secretary of Defense; Honorable Glenn T. Seaborg, Chairman, Atomic Energy Commission; Honorable Lawson B. Knott, Jr., Administrator, General Services Administration; Honorable James E. Webb, Administrator, National Aeronautics and Space Administration:

Small Business Administration representatives are about to be reinstalled in the procurement operations of each of your agencies. This should be a helpful step in improving the overall small business program.

I know how very hard you have worked to improve small business programs over the

past several years. In fiscal year 1967, the combined small business awards made by your respective departments totaled \$8.9 billion.

Like all excellent performances, continued improvement becomes increasingly difficult. Nevertheless, a prosperous small business community means a stronger national economy. I hope, therefore, you will accept the challenge and make the coming fiscal year the best yet for small business in terms of proportionate share in dollar awards.

LYNDON B. JOHNSON

NOTE: The memorandum was released at San Antonio, Texas.

505 Statement by the President Following Senate Approval of the Bill To Increase Social Security Benefits. *November 22, 1967*

TODAY, in the Senate, 100 million Americans won a major victory.

I am proud that the Senate today passed

the social security measure which so fully embraces the recommendations I made last January. Millions of American families have

been waiting. Now they look to the President and the Congress with new hope for prompt action.

This measure promises a higher standard of living to 24 million Americans who now receive monthly social security checks. It promises a brighter future to 75 million wage earners and their families.

Today's bill marks the greatest dollar increase—and one of the most sweeping improvements in the program—since President Roosevelt launched social security 32 years ago.

Here is what this bill means:

- An average benefit increase of over 20 percent.
- A 59 percent increase for those citizens receiving the lowest benefits. For example a couple now receiving the \$66 monthly minimum would get a \$105

check. A single person now receiving \$44 would get \$70.

—In short this measure will lift 2 million Americans above the poverty line.

The House has already voted major improvements in the program. As this bill goes to conference, I ask the Congress to take this unparalleled opportunity to enlarge and enrich the lives of all our families.

In our day, every American has the right to ask and receive the blessings of security for his children and his family. We dare not fail them.

NOTE: The Social Security Amendments of 1967 were approved by the President on January 2, 1968 (Public Law 90-248; 81 Stat. 821).

For the President's recommendations to Congress of January 12, 1967, on programs for older Americans, see Item 12.

The statement was released at San Antonio, Texas.

506 Statement by the President Upon Signing Bills Authorizing Sale of Surplus Bismuth, Molybdenum, and Rare Earths.

November 24, 1967

I HAVE SIGNED three bills which represent economy in government and the wise management of our resources.

These measures authorize the sale of surplus materials—bismuth, molybdenum, and rare earths—no longer needed in our national stockpiles.

They can be released from the bins in which they lie idle, into the stream of commerce. Factories and mills across the Nation will be able to use these materials in the production of steel, glass, and drugs.

They will also go into the manufacture of armorplate and electronic equipment, to help supply our troops in Vietnam.

The Government has invested over \$32 million in these materials. Now this sum can be returned to the Treasury—an important

saving to the American taxpayer.

While I am pleased to sign these three bills, I must emphasize that Congress has only begun the vital work of moving surplus materials from stockpile to production line.

Six stockpile measures still remain before the Congress. They cover materials valued at \$115 million.

These materials are no longer needed by the Government. They are surplus. They should be put to productive use. To hold them is wasteful. By their sale, everyone benefits—the Government, the economy, and the American taxpayer.

The 89th Congress enacted 38 separate stockpile bills, returning \$1.8 billion to the United States Treasury.

Now, when the need for prudence and

frugality in government has never been greater, I urge this Congress to seize the opportunity that awaits it.

NOTE: As enacted, the bills (H.R. 5784, 5787, and 5788) are Public Laws 90-151, 90-152, and 90-153

(81 Stat. 508, 509).

The six other stockpile bills referred to by the President were not approved during the first session of the 90th Congress.

The statement was released at San Antonio, Texas.

507 Statement by the President Upon Signing the Library Services and Construction Act Amendments. *November 24, 1967*

I HAVE SIGNED into law some important improvements in an important statute: the Library Services and Construction Act.

In the past decade, this law has given assistance to libraries serving 75 million Americans.

—Thirteen million Americans have received library service for the first time.

—Local libraries have bought more than 27 million books and other education items.

—719 new libraries have been built.

—\$100 million in Federal funds has been matched by \$321 million in State and local funds.

The first Library Services Act, passed in 1956, was limited to communities whose population was under 10,000, and to remote rural areas. In 1964, however, we extended the law to serve urban and suburban areas, and broadened it to permit construction of public libraries. Again last year, the law was expanded and improved.

Today's law, in addition to several technical amendments, has two important features:

—It will make it possible for communities to buy and remodel existing buildings for use as libraries;

—Instead of reducing the Federal share in new State library programs—as contemplated in the 1966 amendments—the new law continues the 100-percent Federal share for 1 additional year. This will strengthen new programs to establish cooperation between libraries, to provide libraries in State institutions, and to give special library service to physically handicapped persons.

It gives me great pride to sign this law, which supports an important national goal: as much education for every citizen as he wants and can absorb.

NOTE: As enacted, the bill (H.R. 13048) is Public Law 90-154 (81 Stat. 509).

The statement was released at San Antonio, Texas.

508 Special Message to the Congress Transmitting Multilateral Trade Agreement Concluding the Kennedy Round of Trade Negotiations. *November 27, 1967*

To the Congress of the United States:

I am pleased to transmit to the Congress, pursuant to Section 226 of the Trade Expansion Act of 1962, a copy of the multi-

lateral trade agreement signed in Geneva on June 30, 1967.

The agreement brings to a successful conclusion what we all know as the Kennedy

Round of trade negotiations. It fulfills the purposes and high hopes of the Trade Expansion Act passed by the Congress in 1962.

The documents contain a mass of detail. On paper those details appear dry and technical. In reality they represent new factories, more jobs, lower prices to consumers, and higher incomes for American workers and for our trading partners throughout the world.

These decisions recorded in these documents rest on solid experience. The remarkable post-war expansion of international trade brought strength and growth to the free world economy. It enriched the lives of people everywhere—and thus it served the cause of peace. We and our trading partners had an enormous stake in the further removal of trade barriers. Trade expansion would continue to benefit us all—the more so because of our growing prosperity. Protectionism and trade wars would hurt us all—the more so because of our growing interdependence.

This report celebrates the wisdom of these decisions and the success of this tremendous effort. As a consequence, international trade can continue to be the world's biggest growth industry. We must continue to provide leadership in international trade policy to realize its vast potentialities and share fully in its benefits.

The results of the trade negotiations are of unprecedented scale. We received tariff concessions from other countries on between \$7½ to \$8 billion of our industrial and agricultural exports. We reduced duties on about the same volume of our imports. The gains will be even greater in future years as world trade grows.

In approaching the trade negotiations, two fundamental standards governed our actions.

First, we sought—and achieved—reciprocity

in trade concessions. Our consumers will benefit by lower import costs. Our export industries will benefit by greater market opportunities abroad.

Second, we sought to safeguard domestic industries that were especially vulnerable to import competition. We accomplished this through procedures worked out in accordance with guidelines wisely established by Congress in the Trade Expansion Act.

On October 21, 1963, we issued the first of a series of public notices of our intention to negotiate. Public hearings were held by the Tariff Commission and by the inter-agency Trade Information Committee. From these hearings, and from special studies carried out by the Office of Emergency Planning, we were given advice on each article under review for possible concession. When this expert examination revealed that a particular industrial and agricultural product was exceptionally vulnerable to import competition, it was withheld from negotiation. These background studies also guided our negotiators in determining how large a concession we could reasonably make on each item.

Because of the care exercised in these preparations, the selectivity with which reductions were made, and the fact that most of these reductions will come into effect gradually over a 5-year period, we can be assured that the vital interests of American labor, agriculture and industry have been safeguarded.

Throughout the negotiations my Special Representative for Trade Negotiations worked closely with the bipartisan Congressional Advisors.

The thoroughness of our preparation has borne fruit. As we made many concessions, so did our leading trading partners—the West European nations, Canada, and Japan.

The major features of the basic agreement illustrate its depth and potential benefits.

—Tariff cuts of 30% to 50% on a very broad range of industrial goods. For example:

- Canada reduced tariffs on a wide range of machinery from 22.5% to 15%, on metal furniture from 25% to 17.5%, and on coal from 10% to zero.
- Japan cut tariffs on bearings and parts from 25% to 12.5% and various types of radio transmission apparatus and parts from 20% to 10%.
- Great Britain cut its tariffs on American electric typewriters from 16% to 7.5%, on circuit breakers from 16% to 8%, and on air conditioners from 12% to 7.5%.
- The nations of the European Economic Community cut tariffs on U.S. pumps and compressors from 12% to 6%, on refrigerating equipment from 10% to 5%, and on automobiles from 22% to 11%.

—Agricultural concessions that will open new trading opportunities for our farmers and set a valuable precedent for bringing the benefits of competition to world agricultural trade. For example:

- Canada eliminated all tariffs on American apples, halved its tariff on orange and grapefruit juice from 10% to 5%, reduced its tariff on tallow from 17.5% to 10%.
- Japan reduced its tariff on soybeans from 13% to 6%, on turkey from 20% to 15%, and on prunes from 15% to 10%.
- The European Economic Community cut tariffs on dried peas and beans from 9% to 4.5%, on variety meats from 20% to 14%, and on unmanufactured tobacco from 28% to 23%.

- Great Britain cut duties on soybeans from 5% to zero, on variety meats from 20% to 10%, and on raisins from 7.5% to 3.5%.

We gave comparable concessions on a wide range of products that we import. From them, we will gain the opportunity to choose from a wider variety of consumer goods, industrial materials, and capital equipment at lower prices.

Other parts of the Geneva agreement will also promote trade and encourage economic growth in all free world nations. These are:

—*The basic elements of a world grains arrangement.* This understanding provides for higher minimum trading prices and a program under which other nations will join us in the task of supplying food aid to the undernourished people in many of the developing nations.

—*A significant accord on antidumping procedures.* This accord—consistent with existing American law—binds our trading partners to insure fair procedures to American exporters, while safeguarding American industry.

—*Progress in dealing with particular commodity groups.* A 3-year extension of the Long Term Cotton Textile Arrangement was concluded. Useful approaches were developed in negotiating tariffs for steel, aluminum, chemicals, pulp and paper.

—*A separate bargain on the American Selling Price issue.* The U.S. stands to gain additional tariff concessions on chemical exports and liberalization of some European non-tariff barriers in exchange for abolishing the American Selling Price System of valuating certain chemicals. This package will require special legislation.

—*Significant benefits to the developing*

countries. These countries will get help from the food aid provision of the grains arrangement and from concessions they received from all industrial countries on export products of particular interest to them.

Each member of the Congress has already received a copy of the *Report on United States Negotiations*. This report summarizes the concessions granted by other countries and the results of special multilateral negotiations in the Kennedy Round. It also lists all tariff concessions granted by the United States in the Kennedy Round. An additional report will soon be transmitted showing the tariff concessions each of the major Kennedy Round participants granted on the principal commodity groups in the negotiations.

I expect to issue a proclamation shortly making the reductions in the United States tariffs effective beginning on January 1, 1968. I shall seek the advice and consent of the Senate regarding United States participation in the World Grains Arrangement. International agreement on this arrangement was recently reached in Rome as a consequence of the understanding on grains negotiated in the Kennedy Round.

Finally, I shall submit to the Congress a Trade Bill to make effective the American

Selling Price agreement in the Kennedy Round, to revise the Adjustment Assistance Program for firms and workers, and to provide authority that will enable us to make further progress in promoting world trade.

The Geneva Conference set a solid record of achievement, unmatched in world trade history for its constructive and beneficial results. The results represent a monument not only to our late President who gave the negotiations his name, but also to another great American, the late Governor Christian A. Herter, whose inspiration and leadership guided us through the difficult first three years of the negotiations.

I commend this agreement and these reports to your attention.

LYNDON B. JOHNSON

The White House

November 27, 1967

NOTE: The five volumes entitled "General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade—Legal Instruments Embodying the Results of the 1964–1967 Trade Conference" are printed as House Document 184 (90th Cong., 2d sess.).

Proclamation 3822 giving effect to agreed reductions in U.S. tariffs was signed by the President on December 16, 1967 (see Item 545).

The International Grains Arrangement was favorably considered by the Senate on June 13, 1968. The text is printed in Senate Executive A (90th Cong., 2d sess.).

509 Statement by the President on the Completion of the Agency for International Development Program in Iran.

November 29, 1967

TODAY American and Iranian hands join in mutual congratulations. We mark a great success.

It may seem strange that we celebrate when an enterprise goes out of business. It may seem odd that we are pleased that the American AID mission that has long channeled much of America's economic assistance

to Iran will close its doors tomorrow.

But we are celebrating an achievement—not an ending. This is a milestone in Iran's continuing progress and in our increasingly close relations.

What we mark today is Iran's success. What we celebrate is Iran's economic and social progress. What we honor are the ef-

fective work of the men and women of Iran and the enlightened and progressive leadership of His Majesty the Shah.

In 1962, I visited Iran and saw its farms, cities, and schools when Iran was on the doorstep of its reform program.

Just 3 months ago, I had the pleasure of hearing from the Shah himself of Iran's progress in land reform and its drive against illiteracy; its far-reaching development program and emphasis on private investment; and its many other vital reforms.

That story is impressive.

What is even more impressive is Iran's impatience with ways no longer useful—and yet its respect for traditions of the past and its willingness to face hard decisions and to do those difficult things necessary for a better future.

We are glad that we have been able, in an important way, to assist in Iran's rapid strides forward. Our commitment to Iran's progress has been enthusiastically given and of long standing.

Since the dark years following World War

II we have moved from emergency economic support to exciting development efforts which have now paid visible dividends. Careful joint planning has had much to do with the success we mark today.

We cannot depart one era without looking toward another that lies ahead. The similarity of needs and mutuality of purpose that Iran and the United States have long shared do not stop simply because Iran's well-being enables it to shoulder greater burdens.

Now is the time when even stronger ties become possible.

We will turn our hands now to new fields of cooperation. Exchanges in science and technology, expanded business relationships, continued cooperation in development and a common determination to work for peace and security—these are but a few of the ways in which Americans and Iranians will phrase their new plans for cooperation.

With one milestone behind us, we begin planting for a new harvest of friendship, trust, and shared hopes.

510 Statement by the President Commending NEED for Its Work in Aiding Victims of the 6-Day War in the Middle East.

November 29, 1967

LATE last summer, following the tragic 6-day war in the Middle East, a group of distinguished Americans, acting on their own impulse, formed an organization to aid its victims.

Their objective was as simple as it was selfless—to help the men, women, and children blamelessly uprooted by violence. Their compassion and concern were a brilliant example of the American humanitarian tradition.

The organization they founded—called NEED—has collected over 8 million dollars.

Much of that has already been used to provide emergency supplies—food, clothing, and temporary shelter—to Arab refugees. More is going to help establish schools and other institutions of rehabilitation.

The President wants to compliment the magnificent efforts of NEED's founders as well as of the many hundreds of private organizations and individual citizens who have shared in this outpouring of human concern.

The work NEED is doing not only supplements the substantial official aid the

American people are giving to Arab refugees through United States contributions to UNRWA. It also illustrates to what a high degree American aid is a genuine expression of the good will of Americans toward the Arab people.

NOTE: Principal officers of NEED (Near East Emer-

gency Donations), whose headquarters are in New York City, are Gen. Dwight D. Eisenhower, honorary chairman, Frank Pace, Jr., chairman of the 5-member executive committee, and James A. Linen, chairman of the 40-member board of directors composed of leaders of American business, government, education, and journalism. Funds collected by the organization were channeled through the United Nations Relief and Works Agency.

511 Statement by the President on the Nomination of Secretary McNamara as President of the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development. *November 29, 1967*

A FEW weeks ago, Secretary Fowler advised me that the World Bank had asked this Government to submit to the Bank's board of directors its recommendations for President of the Bank to succeed Mr. George Woods. He informed me that Mr. Woods had recommended Secretary Robert McNamara and that he and Mr. Livingston Merchant heartily concurred.

Some time ago, Mr. McNamara reported to me that Mr. Woods had talked with him about succeeding Mr. Woods as President of the Bank. Mr. McNamara said that he was interested in the World Bank post as an opportunity for continued service. He assured me of his willingness to remain as Secretary of Defense so long as the President considered it to be necessary, but he believed the service would benefit from the appointment of a fresh person.

Mr. McNamara is obviously highly qualified for the presidency of the World Bank by background, skills, and interest, and he is certainly entitled to appointment to any appropriate post in which he is interested and to relief from the extraordinary burdens that he has been carrying as soon as the national interest will permit. He deserves no less from his President and his country.

Accordingly, I told Secretary Fowler that I concurred in the submission of Secretary

McNamara's name to the board of the World Bank, and I am informed that upon inquiry by representatives of the board, Secretary McNamara today has indicated his availability subject to the President's consent and agreement as to the time when he will assume his post.

I do not minimize the loss to the Government and to me personally that will result from Secretary McNamara's departure from the Cabinet and the post of Secretary of Defense.

He has been a great administrator of the Defense Establishment. He has been a wise, resourceful, and prudent originator and collaborator with respect to policies and programs of vital importance to this Nation and the world.

His service as a member of my Cabinet and as a wise counselor in matters of domestic as well as foreign policy has been unexcelled.

The Nation as well as its President owe him a debt of gratitude and the highest honors which can be bestowed. I shall miss him greatly as a member of my Cabinet, as one of my closest colleagues, and as my valued friend. He has richly earned relief from the arduous labors and stress of the position which he has so well occupied; and I am glad that he will continue to render

service to the Nation and the world in the important post to which he has been named.

But I could not justify asking Secretary McNamara indefinitely to continue to bear the enormous burdens of his position, nor could I in justice to him and to this Nation's obligations to the World Bank, refrain from recommending that he be selected as President of the Bank.

The course of our participation in the war in Vietnam is firmly set; major defense policies are clearly defined; and it will be possible for Secretary McNamara's successor to continue his able and effective administration of the Defense Establishment and our program without loss of momentum or

effectiveness.

No precise date has yet been fixed for Secretary McNamara's departure, but I have asked him to remain at least long enough into next year to complete the work on the military program and financial budget for fiscal year 1969.

NOTE: In his statement the President referred to Henry H. Fowler, Secretary of the Treasury, and Livingston T. Merchant, U.S. Executive Director of the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development (World Bank).

Shortly before the release of the President's statement, Secretary of Defense Robert S. McNamara issued a statement summarizing the events that led up to his nomination as President of the Bank. The text is printed in the Weekly Compilation of Presidential Documents (vol. 3, p. 1637).

512 Remarks at the Swearing In of Howard J. Samuels as Under Secretary of Commerce. *November 30, 1967*

Mr. Howard Samuels and family, Secretary Trowbridge, Mr. Justice Fortas, Members of the Congress, ladies and gentlemen, and friends:

I am here this morning to hand new challenges to a man who has really made a career of challenges.

Howard Samuels has been facing up to challenges all of his life.

In the public schools of upstate New York.

In the classes of MIT.

In the Army before Pearl Harbor, when he was fighting with Patton across Europe.

Lieutenant Colonel Samuels, age 26, came back from war with an idea and with a dream. He began his own business in an abandoned old schoolhouse. The rent was \$35 a month. He and his brother built a corporation from that. It is now this Nation's largest producer of plastic packaging.

So, Howard Samuels leaves this success behind—because another and a larger challenge has brought him to his Nation's Capital.

He takes high office this morning in a department that once spoke only for business. Now it speaks to business about the real business of America—the well-being of all the American people, including the business people.

So Mr. Samuels, your President wants to challenge you—and to challenge American business—to do more to solve the stubborn problems that plague this Nation and that keep us worrying at night.

Let me mention just two of those problems in the brief time this morning:

One is the shame of America. It is the slum America—the nameless subcity of the poor that exists in every State. It is a sprawling hovel where 20 million Americans—10

percent of all of our people—today live in tenements, in rural shacks, and tarpaper shanties.

There are nearly 6 million of these so-called homes in this, the richest land in the world. Law and decency condemn them. Yet they stand—supported by our inaction, and also supported by, I am afraid, our indifference. They stand 30 years after President Franklin Roosevelt signed our first public housing act. They stand despite all that the last five Presidents have done to try to wipe this shame from the face and from the conscience of the wealthiest people on earth.

So much for challenge one. The second challenge is to try to hire and to train the half a million hard-core unemployed. That is what we are talking about—500,000 hard-core unemployed.

This is our forgotten labor force. It is an unenlisted legion, a neglected resource of a rich and a productive America.

They are the last in line. They do not share in America's abundance because they are the handicapped, they are the unskilled, they are the untrained, and they are the slighted victims of indifference and of discrimination.

Some of us think and hope that all they are asking of us is a chance. We are trying as hard as we know how to give them that chance—a chance to work at a good job at a decent wage.

But we do need help. Government just can't do it alone. We need the energy, we need the genius, we need the imagination, and we need the initiative of the businessmen of America who have built this great free enterprise system into the most powerful economy in all the world.

Last month I asked the distinguished Secretary of Commerce, Mr. Sandy Trowbridge, to get our businessmen involved, to get them involved in hiring or training these castoff

Americans. The Secretary turned to our country's 500 largest firms and asked them for help.

Twenty-three of these 500 said they would help.

Twenty-nine said they would not help.

Eighty-five said they were interested.

But the men on the highest levels sometimes just deal with the cream of the crop. That still leaves, after Mr. Trowbridge worked all these days, 70 percent for you, Mr. Samuels. They have not committed themselves. We are going to put you in the nose of the cone, in the goldfish bowl, and we are going to see what you do and what the 70 percent of the 500 do about helping us do something for these half million hard-core unemployed.

I believe the businessman can become concerned, if he knows the facts. But the average businessman is, first of all, always concerned first with his own business. He is busy with his own affairs. The pity of that is a terrible, accidental callousness to the greater business of all of us—a very dangerous thing. His business is not going to ultimately be any better than all of our business.

Tomorrow morning, we will begin the 82d consecutive month of growing prosperity in America. In less than 7 years, corporate profits after taxes have increased 93 percent—almost doubled in the last 7 years—corporate profits after taxes.

So I summon American business this morning, as I did yesterday at the luncheon here in the White House. I summon them in their surge of prosperity, to try to look back at its wake: to look hard at the nameless slum city of the poor and to look hard at this forgotten labor force—and try to help the leaders of commerce join the leaders of the workers in doing something about it. Government can supplement their efforts but cannot supplant them.

Now, before we administer the oath, I must remark upon your wonderful family of eight children. I think it is right that a man who will help to run the Census Bureau should have such a large and attractive family.

So in the language of commerce, "It gives

a man a piece of the action."

NOTE: The President spoke at 11:47 a.m. in the East Room at the White House. In his opening words he referred to Secretary of Commerce Alexander B. Trowbridge and Supreme Court Justice Abe Fortas, who administered the oath of office. Later he referred to Gen. George S. Patton, Jr., Commander of the 15th U.S. Army in Europe during World War II.

513 Statement by the President on the Death of Dr. Alan T. Waterman. *December 1, 1967*

THE American people mourn the passing of a foremost man of science and of human purpose, Dr. Alan T. Waterman.

Our Government has lost a trusted counselor. As Chief Scientist of the Office of Naval Research and as first Director of the National Science Foundation, he left an indelible stamp of achievement on one of the most vital areas of American life.

He will be missed. But succeeding generations will be wiser for his skill and richer for the foresight that marked his long career.

LYNDON B. JOHNSON

NOTE: The statement was made available to the press through the White House Press Office and was not issued in the form of a White House press release.

514 Remarks Delivered by Telephone to the Regional Democratic Conference in Charleston, West Virginia. *December 2, 1967*

Thank you, Governor Hulett Smith, Chairman Bailey, distinguished Democrats:

I want to talk to you this morning about the future of the Democratic Party.

Contrary to what you may have heard, I have much more than just a passing interest in this subject.

I hope you won't think that I'm being premature in bringing up this subject this morning. We really haven't had our primaries. We haven't had our convention. So there's really no way of guessing who the Democratic candidate is going to be.

But I do want to say this: I fully intend to support him.

I believe we already have several volunteers for next year's ticket. In general, I like

to stay out of these internal party matters. But there's one aspirant—a very well-known liberal from Minnesota—a well-known liberal from Minnesota—about whom I am going to say a few words this morning.

Despite the few differences that we have had over the years, we have both always tried to do what we believed best for our country. And I have always considered him to be a friend, to be a loyal Democrat, and to be a great statesman.

I am only sorry—I'm deeply sorry—that Hubert Humphrey could not have been with us this morning.

The Vice President has been going around the country lately, keeping his finger on the political pulse. And I don't mind telling you

that some of his reports make pretty grim reading.

Just the other day he showed me a letter to a newspaper editor. This particular critic had something to say about 7 years of Democratic administration. He wrote that the Democratic Party "has deluded the American people, demoralized American democracy, discouraged American business, and disorganized American industry."

He said that 7 years of a Democratic administration had "deluded the American people into believing that a government is . . . an inexhaustible giver-out of jobs, doles, and pensions."

Doesn't that sound familiar? I doubt if there has ever been a Democratic administration that didn't get that kind of criticism. The letter I just read you, the letter that the Vice President was showing me, in fact, was written on June 17, 1940—not about Lyndon Johnson and the Great Society, but about Franklin D. Roosevelt and the New Deal.

There are always people in this country—and they are loud and vocal people—who fear progress more than they fear anything else in the world.

They confuse decency with dole.

They confuse welfare with waste.

They confuse responsibility with radicalism.

And always, always, they try to confuse the American people.

Fortunately, there are more Democrats than Republicans in the United States. Fortunately, most Americans would rather look ahead; most Americans are more concerned about where we are going than where we have been.

As Emerson said, America has always had a party of hope, and a party of memory.

I am a Democrat because, in our time, the Democrats have been the party of hope.

Many of those hopes have been realized.

Nobody knows better than you that many of those hopes are being realized now—today—for the first time. It was more than 4 years ago that the Democratic Party and a Democratic administration pledged to transform the fabric of a vast poverty-ridden area of America.

And it was more than 2 years ago, with the Appalachian Regional Development Act, 1965, that we joined the Appalachian States and the Federal Government together in a great program to brighten the lives of more than 18 million people.

We recognized that poverty cannot be confined by borders. Mines closed down in one community can signal distress many miles away. Farms that lie fallow because there is no market for their products can put men out of work in another county.

In 2 years, through this partnership for economic progress and development, changes have come to the landscape of Appalachia:

—new schools and libraries, hospitals and nursing homes,

—airports and highways opened this landlocked region to commerce,

—strip mines were reclaimed to restore the land as a productive base for the future,

—plants to purify the rivers and streams.

With this physical change, new hope has come to the people of this region. For construction means jobs, and schools bring learning, and hospitals provide health care where little—or none—ever existed before.

We renewed our national commitment to help the poor who live in the towns and who reside in the hollows of America, where the promise has dimmed and where life is bleak. We reiterated and reaffirmed our pledge to harness the talents and efforts of government at its best—cooperative government—all that

government is really about, bettering humanity.

We have engaged in a pursuit of new solutions on how to better humanity, how to help people.

The agenda for defeating poverty is already crowded with unfinished work.

But we have begun. We have claimed no great victories. We have claimed only that the time of inaction is past and behind us.

Now I know, and you know, that there are many voices in this land which tell us that we must return to stagnation because of the war in Vietnam. But I also remember, and you remember, that most of those very same voices were crying for stagnation when there was no war of any kind in Vietnam.

The noise of cannons in Vietnam has not made them deaf to the cries of the poor or the pleas of the sick. They have always been deaf to cries like that. It is not really the war that bothers them all the time. What bothers them is the idea of social progress.

There are others who are deaf to the cries of help from people in distant lands. There are those who say that we cannot defend freedom in the world at the same time that we achieve social justice here at home.

We can—and don't you believe them when they say we can't. We can and we are going to and we must do both.

As President Kennedy wrote in a speech intended for delivery the night of his death:

"We in this country, in this generation, are—by destiny rather than choice—the watchmen on the walls of world freedom."

And I would add to this that by destiny and choice the Democratic Party guards our heritage of social responsibility, and is the watchman against indifference—which is isolationism in its domestic form.

To both groups—to those who would turn

their backs on the problems at home, and to those who want to quit, cut and run, and abandon the fight for freedom in Southeast Asia—I would like this morning to repeat a very simple message. It is a message that has been on the record for more than 20 years. I hope it will soon be delivered to those who never seem to have heard it.

It was in his last inaugural address that Franklin Roosevelt counseled the Nation in these words that I am going to repeat:

"Today, in this year of war, 1945, we have learned lessons—at a fearful cost—and we shall profit by them. We have learned that we cannot live alone, at peace; that our own well-being is dependent on the well-being of other nations far away. . . ."

It has been said many times that those who cannot learn from history are condemned to repeat it. Well, we do not intend to repeat it. The Democratic Party does not intend to repeat it.

I believe that when the American people understand this message, and it is a part of your job to get with it and to get it to them—they are going to respond, as they have always responded, with both the compassion and the courage that history demands from the citizens of the richest, most powerful nation to be found on this earth.

So, it is your task and my task to make sure, that as men sit in the wings and plan and deliberate to divide, to conquer, and to defeat the great movement that is bettering humanity in America—it is our task to make sure that the American people—the p-e-e-p-l-e—really realize how the road forks—and which turn and which fork they must take.

I wish I could be there with you this morning. I envy you. I want so much to do the job that you are doing.

I will be seeing you.

NOTE: The President spoke at 10:50 a.m. by telephone from the Cabinet Room at the White House to a conference of Democrats held at Charleston,

W. Va., and attended by delegates from six States. In his opening words he referred to Hulett C. Smith, Governor of West Virginia, and John M. Bailey, chairman of the Democratic National Committee.

515 Remarks Transmitted by Closed-Circuit Television to Ceremonies Marking the 25th Anniversary of the First Nuclear Reactor. December 2, 1967

President Saragat, Mrs. Fermi, Mayor Daley, members of the Fermi team, Dr. Seaborg, and distinguished guests:

I believe history will record that on this day 25 years ago, mankind reached the turning point of his destiny.

The Book of Genesis tells us that, in the beginning, God directed man to:

"Be fruitful, and multiply, and replenish the earth, and subdue it. . . ."

But only in our lifetime have we acquired the ultimate power to fulfill all of that command. Throughout history, man has struggled to find enough power—to find enough energy—to do his work in the world. He domesticated animals, he sold his brother into slavery, and he enslaved himself to the machine—all in a desperate search for energy.

Desperation ended in the experiment conducted in Chicago, 25 years ago, by Enrico Fermi and his fellow scientists. In a single stroke, they increased man's available energy more than a thousandfold.

They placed in our hands the power of the universe itself.

Nothing could have been more appropriate than the words used by Dr. Arthur Compton to describe what happened on that day:

"The Italian navigator has just landed in the new world."

This modern Italian navigator was a great man of science. But he was also something more. He was one of millions who, in the

long history of the world, have been compelled to leave a beloved native land to escape the forces of tyranny. And like millions before him, Enrico Fermi found here a new home, among free men, in a new world. His life and his career have a very special meaning to all who love freedom.

There are today millions of young Americans with an Italian heritage who feel a deep, personal pride in Enrico Fermi. America was born out of the voyages of a great Italian navigator. In a time of greatest danger, another—equally willing to pursue his dream beyond existing charts—took us again into a new epoch.

Today we commemorate our debt to him. And in doing so, we also honor the historic bond between the Old World and the New World.

In a short time, we will be dedicating, in the great State of Illinois, a new national accelerator laboratory. This laboratory, with its 200 billion electron volt accelerator, will maintain our country's position in the forefront of nuclear research.

I suggest that we dedicate this great new laboratory to the memory of the modern-day "Italian navigator."

In so honoring Enrico Fermi, we will also honor the immeasurable contributions that have been made, over the centuries, by the people of Italy to the people of the United States.

Much has already happened in that new

world which just began 25 years ago.

Giant nuclear reactors, direct descendants of Fermi's first atomic pile, are now producing millions of kilowatts of power for peaceful purposes. Other reactors are powering nuclear submarines under the seas of the earth. They are our first line of defense against tyranny, whatever its contemporary doctrine or disguise, which Enrico Fermi dedicated himself to resist.

But it is really the peaceful uses of atomic energy about which Fermi would have wished us to speak—and there are many peaceful uses.

When I became President, nuclear energy was generating about 1 million kilowatts of electric power in the United States.

Today, the atom is giving us more than 2,800,000 kilowatts—almost three times as much. And more than 70 additional nuclear powerplants are already planned or are now under construction.

This will equal about 20 percent of the whole electric generating capacity in the United States today. It is enough to meet the total requirements of 45 million people. All this from what was, 25 years ago—before the success of Fermi's experiment—only a scientist's dream.

The dream has been realized. By learning the secret of the atom, we have given mankind—for the first time in history—all the energy that mankind can possibly use.

It took the genius of countless generations of dedicated scientists to find the secret. It remains for us to use that secret wisely.

What began as the most terrible instrument of war that man has ever seen can become the key to a golden age of mankind. But this will not happen unless we make it happen.

We cannot forget that another, darker future also opened on this day 25 years ago.

The power to achieve the promise of Genesis is also the power to fulfill the prophecy of Armageddon. We can either remake life on earth—or we can end it forever.

Let me be specific.

If Enrico Fermi's reactor had operated 10,000 years, it would not have produced enough plutonium for one atomic bomb.

Today, a single reactor can, while generating electricity, produce enough plutonium to make dozens of bombs every year. And scores of these reactors are now being built—and they are being built all over the world.

Their purpose is peaceful. Yet the fact remains that the secret diversion of even a small part of the plutonium that they create could soon give every nation—every nation—the power to destroy civilization—if not life on this earth.

We just cannot permit this to happen.

Nor can mankind be denied the unlimited benefits of the peaceful atom.

We must, some way, somehow, find a way to remove the threat while preserving the promise.

The American people have made their own desires crystal clear when their representatives in the United States Senate voted unanimously to support an effective nonproliferation treaty for nuclear weapons.

We are now engaged in a major effort to achieve such a treaty, in a form acceptable to all nations.

We are trying so hard to assure that the peaceful benefits of the atom will be shared by all mankind—without increasing, at the same time, the threat of nuclear destruction.

We do not believe that the safeguards we propose in that treaty will interfere with the peaceful activities of any country.

And I want to make it clear, very clear, to all the world that we in the United States are not asking any country to accept safe-

guards that we are unwilling to accept ourselves.

So I am, today, announcing that when such safeguards are applied under the treaty, the United States will permit the International Atomic Energy Agency to apply its safeguards to all nuclear activities in the United States—excluding only those with direct national security significance.

Under this offer, the agency will then be able to inspect a broad range of United States nuclear activities, both governmental and private, including the fuel in nuclear-powered reactors owned by utilities for generating electricity, and the fabrication and the chemical reprocessing of such fuel.

This pledge maintains the consistent policy of the United States since the very beginning of the nuclear age.

It was just 14 years ago that a President of the United States appeared before the General Assembly of the United Nations to urge the peaceful use of the atom. President Dwight D. Eisenhower said on that occasion:

“... the United States pledges ... before the world ... its determination to help solve the fearful atomic dilemma—to devote its entire heart and mind to find the way by

which the miraculous inventiveness of man shall not be dedicated to his death, but consecrated to his life.”

We renew that pledge today. We reaffirm our determination to dedicate the miraculous power of the atom, not to death, but to life.

We invite the world's nations to join with us.

Let us use this historic anniversary to deepen and to reaffirm the search for peace.

Let us so conduct ourselves that future generations will look back upon December 2, 1942—not as the origin of sorrow and despair—but as the beginning of the brightest and the most inspiring chapter in the long history of man.

NOTE: The President spoke at 12:34 p.m. at the White House via closed-circuit television to a group of senior scientists gathered in Chicago to celebrate the 25th anniversary of the first controlled nuclear reaction. In his opening words he referred to President Giuseppe Saragat of Italy, who addressed the group via Telstar from Rome, Mrs. Enrico Fermi, widow of the Italian physicist who led the team of scientists who built the first nuclear reactor, Richard J. Daley, Mayor of Chicago, and Glenn T. Seaborg, Chairman of the Atomic Energy Commission. During his remarks the President referred to Dr. Arthur H. Compton, who was in charge of the Metallurgical Laboratory at the University of Chicago during World War II and to the new accelerator laboratory established at Weston, Ill.

516 Statement by the President on the Death of Francis Cardinal Spellman, Archbishop of New York. *December 2, 1967*

THE LORD has called home a man who served Him and all His children well.

Cardinal Spellman gave his life to God. For half a century, his faith and works were testament to God's enduring and universal love of men.

The race of man mourns him now, for mankind was his ministry. The grace of his goodness touched all manner of men and nations. He brought to all who opened their

hearts to his spirit the miracles on which men must build their earthly hopes—truth and charity, mercy and compassion, trust in God and in the destiny of God's human family.

Cardinal Spellman was a Catholic. His lifetime was devoted to uniquely catholic purpose. His voice was heard on the smallest parish street and in the highest councils of his Church. He was both pastor and states-

man, an apostle of progress whose influence was felt wherever problem or promise touched his pulpit or his world.

Americans will never forget that he was the Vicar of our Armed Forces. This will be the first Christmas for many years when thousands of our sons will not know the comfort of his presence. But this Christmas in Vietnam, men will recall the courage of his faith that peace on earth will come to men of good will.

For all the extraordinary fullness and diversity of his life, this Prince of the Church lived and died a humble priest.

That is all he wished. That is how he

would wish us to remember him. "Those ministers," he once said, "who are endowed with sacred power are servants of their brethren. The higher one rises in the Church, the lower, in a sense, does he become."

This good and gallant servant of our world is gone. But the good that he has done remains to enrich and enlighten us all. In my own grief, I find comfort in that thought. Cardinal Spellman was my close and cherished friend of many years. I pray that the American family, as my own, will be consoled by this truth: As God has taken away this day, He has given us the blessings of His disciple's works for all our days.

517 Remarks Upon Signing the Mental Retardation Amendments of 1967. December 4, 1967

Mrs. Humphrey, Secretary Gardner, distinguished Members of the Senate and the House, Senator Hill, Chairman Staggers, and other very able Members of the Congress and members of the President's Committee on Mental Retardation, ladies and gentlemen:

We are very happy this morning, Mrs. Johnson and I, to welcome all of you here to the East Room of the White House. This is the poor man's wedding chapel.

That is one of the fringe benefits of the Presidency. You can have a wedding here in the house and no one in the country really thinks it is cheap. Actually, we decided to have the wedding here because of one of my most recent experiences in a church.

For the information of any who recognize this as a political year, I want it on the record in advance that we are still, Mrs. Johnson and I, personally paying for Luci's wedding. However, that is no excuse for deficit financing, after all, and there is no truth whatever in the story that George Woods resigned because I asked him for a small

wedding loan for Lynda's wedding.

Of course, I do feel a little better that I have a real, warm friend over at the World Bank these days.

After spending all day yesterday babysitting and tasting the wedding cake and giving some very high fashion counsel about bridesmaids' gowns and hairdos, I hope that all of you understand that I feel relieved to come here again this morning and to turn back to the Nation's business, particularly to sign some very vital legislation.

The Mental Retardation Act of 1963 was passed under the leadership and guidance and strong support of President Kennedy.

Not many years ago mental retardation was a subject that no one really wanted to talk about. It was shrouded in fear and shame and ignorance. Then a very small handful of very courageous women like Mrs. Joseph P. Kennedy, Mrs. Sargent Shriver, and Mrs. Hubert Humphrey took up the cudgels to see if they couldn't ask the American people to help them search for the

understanding of the cause of mental retardation, and what the American people could do about it.

Slowly, the idea grew that with encouragement and with training, mentally retarded children could be brought around to leading rather useful lives.

The National Government was then primarily interested and started a movement to try to stir all the people of America to action in this very important field.

I think we have made considerable progress since 1963. Yet I think we should know that there still are a million and a half retarded Americans who are without any community support whatever. There are many millions more who need care who don't get it.

Three-fourths of the retarded in this country who do receive residential care receive that residential care in old, dilapidated buildings, buildings that are more than 50 years old. That is where three-fourths of the children are taken care of.

The waiting lines for residential care are expanding year after year. They are growing longer and longer. Some children today must wait as long as 5 or 6 years to be received.

We have less than half the specialists that we really need to provide care and to provide training.

Although we have come a long way toward dispelling the medieval mystery that surrounded mental retardation, we still care for thousands in facilities that are really not much better than medieval.

We have asked some of our ablest citizens, the medical men and the laymen, to probe the causes of retardation, to tell us what can be done to prevent it, to guide us in caring for those who have been afflicted.

At this point, I want to pay a special tribute to the members of the President's Committee on Mental Retardation. I doubt if there has

ever been a Presidential commission that has approached the subject with more dedication, and I hope that we shall be able to say, when their labors have been concluded, that there has never been one that was more effective.

But the fact is, we are still very far behind. We are tragically behind in developing clinics and schools that could help. This bill that Congress has brought to me today will help us get just a part of the facilities that we need. Thousands of seriously retarded children will benefit from it. It will mean the difference between darkness and just a ray of light.

This bill, I think, is an achievement for the Nation. It is a signal of hope for millions of Americans and it is addressed to at least 2 million seriously retarded children. In great part, these Americans have not been crippled by the errors of nature; they have been stunted, rather, by the errors of man. Their minds suffer from the culture of poverty, physical or spiritual poverty, into which they were all born.

Members of the President's Committee have told me about millions of children who are born with normal capacities who emerge from impoverished homes and schools and these experts have shown me maps I wish each Member of the Congress could see, each member of the chambers of commerce and the labor organizations could see. These maps show each case of mental retardation and they locate it with a green pin.

In the suburbs the pins are quite scattered. You see one here, and then another one over there. Downtown the pins are in a clump. They are much closer together. In the inner city and the teeming ghettos, the pins cluster to form a solid green mass.

On these maps that I have seen, the ghetto areas are where the green pins are—are completely green. They look like a good pasture

in the springtime when we have had a lot of rain. These areas need attention. These clusters of green pins signify the mental inadequacy of these poor, unfortunate people who need our help.

Retardation may afflict a child not only before he is born, but afterwards. It may be a blow of nature or it may be the result of countless human blows. In either event, the Nation suffers as the child suffers and, of course, as his family bears an unbearable burden. In either event, I think it is clearly the obligation of the Nation to act to relieve this suffering. It is our obligation to do more than we are doing.

That is the point I want to make. We are not doing enough. We must do more. We are going to do more.

So, today we have come here to begin an effort to care for some of those who have suffered most grievously. Our goal is a society where children born with a chance for a full life shall truly have it. This is another step in that platform that we are building.

For what all of you have done—and no one invited himself to this meeting—those who have been active in this effort and who have shown a conscience and a leadership are

here this morning, and to those, my friends, who have inspired these efforts, have provided this leadership, on behalf of the 200 million people of this Nation, I say for what you have done, well done; for what you are going to do, I am extremely curious and very anxious. I will be waiting and I will be helping in any way I can.

Thank each and every one of you.

NOTE: The President spoke at 11:35 a.m. in the East Room at the White House. In his opening words he referred to Mrs. Hubert H. Humphrey, wife of the Vice President of the United States, John W. Gardner, Secretary of Health, Education, and Welfare, Senator Lister Hill of Alabama, and Representative Harley O. Staggers of West Virginia, Chairman of the House Interstate and Foreign Commerce Committee. During his remarks the President referred to his daughters Mrs. Patrick J. (Luci) Nugent and Lynda Bird Johnson, who was soon to be married (see Item 529), George D. Woods, outgoing President of the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development, Mrs. Joseph P. Kennedy, mother of President John F. Kennedy, and her daughter Mrs. R. Sargent Shriver, wife of the Director of the Office of Economic Opportunity.

As enacted, the bill is Public Law 90-170 (81 Stat. 527). The bill amended the Mental Retardation Facilities and Community Mental Health Centers Construction Act of 1963, approved Oct. 31, 1963 (see "Public Papers of the Presidents, John F. Kennedy, 1963," Item 447).

518 The President's News Conference of *December 4, 1967*

THE PRESIDENT. Good afternoon, ladies and gentlemen.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

NOMINATION OF GEN. LEONARD CHAPMAN AS COMMANDANT OF THE MARINE CORPS

[1.] I thought that some of you would like to know that I am sending to the Senate this afternoon, or at a very early time if they are not in session when we finish, the nomi-

nation of General Leonard Chapman to be the Commandant of the Marine Corps.

General Chapman is presently the Assistant Commandant of the Marine Corps, and I think is well known in the Congress and among the general officers, and perhaps even among some of you correspondents.

General Chapman is here. And I present him to you.

If you have any observations you want to make, General, we will be glad to have it, or

if the correspondents have any particular thing about you they would like to ask, we'll be glad to do that. Otherwise, I'll go on to some other announcements. Anything you want to say?

GENERAL CHAPMAN. Mr. President, thank you, sir.

I would just like to say, sir, that this is an occasion that does me the greatest honor, and I appreciate it, sir. I assure you I am going to do my very best for you, and for the country, and for the United States Marine Corps—to the best of my ability.

If I may, I would like to say a word of thanks to my wife, who has stood by me all these many years and in company with thousands of other Marine wives who have stood by while their husbands served their country and their Marine Corps. And she has certainly done that. And I want to take this opportunity to thank her.

THE PRESIDENT. You better run and call her now before she hears it on the radio.

We have a brief announcement to make.

FEDERAL TRADE COMMISSION

[2.] Mr. Nicholson, of Indiana, will be the new Federal Trade Commissioner, succeeding Mr. Reilly. George Christian will give you biographical sketches on that.

INDIAN CLAIMS COMMISSION

[3.] We have three members¹ of the Indian Claims Commission: Mr. Yarborough, and Mr. Vance of Montana, and Mr. Kuykendall, formerly of the Power Commission, a Republican, you will remember—Chairman, I believe, under President Eisenhower. And he has been recommended

as the Republican member of the Indian Claims Commission.

Those nominations go up.

I believe that's all the announcements I have. I will be glad to take any questions any of you may have.

QUESTIONS

MILITARY BUDGET FOR 1969

[4.] Q. Mr. President, can you tell us something about your conference today about the military budget for 1969? And particularly, is the failure of passage for the tax bill² related particularly to the size of that budget?

THE PRESIDENT. That didn't enter into our discussions today.

The discussions today involved the general picture for the coming fiscal year, and pointed up any specific differences that the services might have, where there was not complete agreement, as there is not each year.

General Wheeler, I think, observed, and it was confirmed by Secretary McNamara, that fewer of those differences exist this year, and they are of less magnitude than has been true any time since General Wheeler started participating in these discussions, he said, which was some 6 years ago.

But there always the Army will have a question that they think should be pressed with the President, and they present their viewpoint.

The Navy will have a carrier or a submarine situation, or certain aircraft.

The Marines will have personnel number, or something else.

The Air Force will have some particular matter they have in mind.

They involve pages and pages and pages

¹ Richard W. Yarborough, John T. Vance, and Jerome K. Kuykendall.

² The Revenue and Expenditure Control Act of 1968 was approved by the President on June 28, 1968 (Public Law 90-364, 82 Stat. 251).

of general material explaining and discussing it. They come in and the Chairman of the Joint Chiefs more or less presides with them. The President listens and he calls on each Chief to review his budget with him—not the details of it but the details of any difference.

We will get to the total budget later on and we do that.

Then that starts with the Army, and then the Air Force, and the Navy, and Marines. That is what we did today.

I think it is fair to say that the questions involved are not of compelling significance, not anything like some of them have been in previous years. And the amounts involved, so far as the next year's budget is concerned, are, compared to the total budget, relatively small.

Q. Mr. President, do you have a total at this point in mind for 1969 in general terms at least?

THE PRESIDENT. Whatever is necessary to give us an adequate defense that will adequately protect our security. We haven't come to any total figure at all as I said in the beginning.

SECRETARY MC NAMARA'S RESIGNATION

[5.] Q. Mr. President, rightly or wrongly, some significance was attached to the fact that in your statement the other night on the resignation of Secretary McNamara⁸ you did not say that you urged the Secretary to stay.

Could you tell us the circumstances? Did you urge him to stay, or did you accede to to his wishes, or just what was the situation?

THE PRESIDENT. I think the best explanation of my viewpoint is in that statement. I

told just exactly what happened in that statement.

LEVEL OF NON-VIETNAM SPENDING

[6.] Q. Mr. President, Mr. Mills and Congressman Byrnes of the Ways and Means Committee indicated last week that they would like, in order to get your tax increase through next year, for you to keep the non-Vietnam spending down to the levels in fiscal 1969 or fiscal 1968.

Do you think you can do that? Do you want to?

THE PRESIDENT. I would not want to speculate on the information I have at this time as to what the budget will be for any particular department.

I have found from previous experience when you even express a hope sometimes you mislead people.

So, I want to say that we are going to keep them as low as we possibly can, consistent with the security of the Nation.

SELECTION OF MARINE CORPS COMMANDANT

[7.] Q. Mr. President, there has been a good deal of speculation—

THE PRESIDENT. There always is speculation.

Q. —about the Marine Corps appointment before the fact. I don't know how much there will be after.

I wonder what you could tell us to head it off, in terms of some of the considerations that go into such an appointment, why, what makes you settle on one man rather than another?

THE PRESIDENT. I selected the Commandant as I have selected the Chief of Staff of each of the other services that I have been called upon to make recommendations on. I

⁸ See Item 511.

do that on the basis of the record of the men and their service; also upon recommendations that come to me from their superiors.

And I think that there are many good men in the Marine Corps who would make very able Commandants. One man said you could flip a coin and any one of three or four would be ideally equipped.

It happens that the Commandant is going out and his first assistant is going in, and that is not an unusual thing either in the service or out of the service. He is a man possessed with unusual military traits and qualifications. He has had a very fine record in the service. I believe he is the senior three-star man being considered. He is highly recommended by all of those with whom he is associated.

Q. Mr. President, is he being nominated for four stars?

THE PRESIDENT. The Commandant may carry that—I'm not sure. I don't know how to—[*At this point, Deputy Press Secretary Robert H. Fleming handed the President a note.*] He says not to touch the mike. Stand here. [*Laughter*] Don't want any speculation to start. I have heard about these notes being passed before, so I want to clear that up right now.

PEACE TALKS WITH NORTH VIETNAM

[8.] Q. There is a story out of London this afternoon, one that Prime Minister Wilson is coming to see you. The second part of it quotes a Russian official as saying talks definitely will start if you would stop the bombing unconditionally.

Have you received such information?

THE PRESIDENT. I have no comment on the story. I have not seen it. I think that my last press conference makes it pretty clear what our situation is there. And I doubt that

when and if a situation of that kind comes about you will be reading it over the ticker before we know it.

ALTERNATIVES TO A TAX INCREASE

[9.] Q. Mr. President, in view of the situation on your request for a tax hike, are you giving consideration to any alternative proposals? One idea mentioned has been that you might consider requesting Congress for emergency authority to enact wage and price controls.

THE PRESIDENT. We have no such proposals under consideration, I say at this time. I wouldn't foreclose that next year, or 4 years from now, 8 years from now—I don't want it to come out of context and make a prediction that never will be. Nothing of that type is imminent at this moment.

Q. Mr. President, without the tax increase there would be a much larger Federal deficit in fiscal '68. In light of this, are you considering any deeper cuts in spending than were discussed last week by Director Schultze⁴ at Ways and Means?

Secondly, could you discuss your outlook for the economy in light of the larger Federal deficit?

THE PRESIDENT. First of all, the Congress has the cutting power. And we would hope they would exercise that power on any individual items in any of the bills that they may think necessary.

Second, they control the purse strings so far as appropriations are concerned. I am afraid some of you get the idea sometimes that that is a matter for the President to do.

The President can veto or approve the bills they send him, but the President can't spend a dime that they don't appropriate

⁴Charles L. Schultze, Director of the Bureau of the Budget.

for the purpose of spending ahead of time.

Now, in times past, with their consent, in my administration we have deferred and withheld and postponed and frozen items for the time being. But I would hope that the Congress would go as far as it can go.

On the tax bill, we are very hopeful that they will pass the tax bill. They have the authority. We think each day it is becoming more evident that we need the revenue—that the economy needs the tax bill. And we are very hopeful that the Congress will, in their wisdom, act upon one.

POSSIBLE VISIT BY PRIME MINISTER WILSON

[10.] Q. Mr. President, there was a two-part question and I don't believe you answered the first part.

THE PRESIDENT. I may not have.

Q. That was whether Mr. Wilson is coming to see you soon.

THE PRESIDENT. I didn't understand they asked that question. I do not know. No definite arrangement has been made. No date has been agreed upon. There have been discussions about a visit, but that is not definite.

Q. Mr. President—

THE PRESIDENT. No time has been set, although Mr. Wilson would be welcome any time he chose to come.

SENATOR MC CARTHY'S CANDIDACY

[11.] Q. Mr. President, Senator McCarthy has now thrown his hat into the ring and is going to enter several primaries to challenge you for the nomination. How do you view this? What is your assessment of this situation and how do you view its effects on the party itself, in an election year?

THE PRESIDENT. I think everyone has a right to run for any office in this country that he wants to run for. I think that is about all the comment I would have to make on Senator McCarthy.

THE SENATE RESOLUTION ON VIETNAM

[12.] Q. Mr. President, what are you planning to do on the Senate resolution to take the Vietnam question to the U.N.? Have you started plans on that?

THE PRESIDENT. I am sure that we will get the resolution, it will go to the State Department and we will get their reactions and Ambassador Goldberg's reactions. And then I will consider what is appropriate under the circumstances.

REPLACEMENT FOR SECRETARY MC NAMARA

[13.] Q. Mr. President, have you picked a man, even if you don't want to tell us who he is, to replace Mr. McNamara?

THE PRESIDENT. No, I haven't.

PRESIDENT EISENHOWER'S VIEWS ON VIETNAM

[14.] Q. Mr. President, former President Eisenhower said the other night it might be useful at times to send American forces into North Vietnam, and a couple of Republican Congressmen have commented and predicted that might happen. What are your feelings on that?

THE PRESIDENT. I wouldn't make any comments on that in a press conference. I don't have what the General said. And I don't want to be passing judgment on his comments anyway.

Whatever military action would be de-

sirable and fitting under the circumstances, I would rather handle it through General Westmoreland than NBC.

MEETING WITH CYRUS VANCE

[15.] Q. Mr. President, do you expect to see Mr. Vance ⁵ tomorrow?

THE PRESIDENT. Yes, if he is here.

STATUS OF MEMBERS OF THE CABINET

[16.] Q. Mr. President, Joe Alsop this morning had in his column, he stated as a fact, that all members of your Cabinet, including Mr. McNamara, had fairly recently made a promise to you that they would stay through the 1968 elections. Is that a fact?

THE PRESIDENT. I don't recall it. [*Laughter*] I have never felt that anyone was obligated for any reason to stay in the President's Cabinet. There have been men come in the Cabinet and leave the Cabinet. I am sure that will continue to be the case.

Q. Mr. President, cleaning out that speculation basket, some of the language that was used in the McNamara exchange about fresh faces in Government positions set off a new guessing game as to whether anybody else in the Cabinet is getting ready to yield to a fresh face. Do you know of any other changes in the Cabinet coming up?

THE PRESIDENT. No. I know that "some kids" have been calling around some of your bureaus predicting that and planning it and these same boys from time to time set up

straw men and then knock them down. They get about a 2- or 3-day run on some of these things. But most of them are not as close to the situation as they might be, or might desire to be.

I would doubt that they would have any information the President doesn't have. I have no information that any Cabinet officer has any intention of leaving, but I could conceive of Cabinet officers—one, or two, or more—leaving at some time under certain circumstances. I don't think that the sources you quote would have much information on it one way or the other, or on any that had left, either.

Q. Sir, would these "kids" be of an age sufficient to serve in Congress? [*Laughter*]

THE PRESIDENT. No, I didn't have any Members of Congress in mind, although I am sure some of them were involved. All I know is what some of the newspaper people have told me. The reference came from them. I didn't see them or hear them, but I do understand some calls were made. I think some of the Cabinet officers were familiar with that.

THE PRESIDENT'S CAMPAIGN PLANS

[17.] Q. Mr. President, if you run next year, sir, do you contemplate conducting any sort of a different kind of campaign than you did the last time, using more or less television, more or fewer appearances?

THE PRESIDENT. I haven't given any consideration to that at this time.

STEEL PRICE INCREASE

[18.] Q. Mr. President, I wonder if I could ask you about the recent price increase announced in steel, whether you plan any personal action to stop this spiral? Steel is

⁵ On November 22, 1967, the White House had announced that Cyrus R. Vance, New York attorney and former Deputy Secretary of Defense, would fly to Ankara and Athens for discussions with Turkish and Greek officials in an attempt to mediate the dispute between the two countries over the island of Cyprus (3 Weekly Comp. Pres. Docs., p. 1613).

usually basic, and we usually get other prices to follow in the wage and price spiral. What action do you contemplate in that?

THE PRESIDENT. We have expressed to the people in the industry our very strong-felt views as elaborated on in the statement of the Chairman of the Council of Economic Advisers, Mr. Ackley. We have made our position very clear.

We have exercised such rights as we had in the matter. And we will continue to attempt to prevail upon both labor and business, or business and labor, to bear in mind that when the increased costs exceed the increased productivity, we have an undesirable and bad situation.

We will try to appeal to them to try to keep that from occurring, although it will occur, as you know.

PLANS FOR AN ASIAN SUMMIT MEETING

[19.] Q. Mr. President, what is the status of your plans now for an all-Asian summit meeting?

THE PRESIDENT. We don't have any immediate plans. When we do have, we will announce them. There is not any date or time.

We do like to get together at periodic intervals when it is convenient to all of them. But as you know, there have been a good many things taking place in many of the countries involved—elections, inauguration, off-year senatorial elections, and other things. So, there is nothing in the works immediately.

Merriman Smith, United Press International: Thank you, Mr. President.

NOTE: President Johnson's one hundred and fifteenth news conference was held in the Cabinet Room at the White House at 4:10 p.m. on Monday, December 4, 1967.

519 Remarks to the Foreign Policy Conference for Business Executives. *December 4, 1967*

FIRST I want to welcome you here and tell you how delighted I am that I can be with you. I want to thank each of you for your generosity. I have thought for some time that it was about time someone threw a benefit for Dean Rusk. This is one of the loveliest rooms to throw it in in all of Washington, even though the windows are barred.

When Dean Rusk first took his job as Secretary of State, I am told that he made one request. He wanted a room with a good view, so he was put up here on the seventh and eighth floors.

And he asked for one more thing. He wanted to have the windows sealed. "Why?" he was asked. "Simple," he said, "it is too

far to jump and too high for the pickets to climb."

But Dean forgot all about the birds. They tell me they flock to his windowsill every single day. As everybody knows in this country, and most other countries, the Secretary of State is a very wonderfully kind, gentle, understanding, and generous man. Every morning Mrs. Rusk gives him a little bag of bread crumbs to bring down to the office with him so he can feed these native birds through the day. The sparrows and the starlings seem very grateful and appreciative, but as you must have observed, there is just no pleasing the appetites of these doves and hawks. [*Laughter*]

Someone told me that there were some pickets outside while you were registering. I am getting to be an expert these days on pickets' signs myself. But I think there must have been a switch in some of those that were used yesterday. The way it was reported to me, one read "Unleash Rostow."

You may have noticed that a great deal of care went into the preparation for your briefings. One reason is that business is entitled to very great respect in this country of ours. Outside of government, it is really the only place left where a man can find a job. You may know that there are at least a few people who are out job hunting these days.

A publisher of a children's book on penguins recently sent copies to a group of youngsters to get their opinions. And one young lady replied: "This is a good book on penguins—but it told me more about penguins than I wish to know."

After looking around at some of these briefers, I am afraid that you have heard a lot more about foreign policy in your briefings than you would wish to know.

The threads of foreign policy extend throughout the fabric of our national life. You cannot find the significance of any one thread without seeing its relationship to the whole.

It is not always easy to keep that in mind in the echo of gunfire.

Today, as we meet here, America's eyes are concentrated on Vietnam. The minds of our people are centered on the hills and the rice paddies where our men are out there fighting.

Our presence in Vietnam is in keeping with a foreign policy which has guided this Nation for more than 20 years. Four Presidents, 11 Congresses, and the most thoughtful men of our generation have endorsed that policy and have built that policy from the ground up.

For two decades, we have made it clear that we will use American strength to block aggression when our security is threatened, and when—as in Vietnam—the victims of aggression ask for our help and are prepared to struggle for their own independence and for their own freedom.

Our strength, and America's commitment to use that strength, has served as a shield. Behind this shield, threatened nations have been able to get on with the real work of peace. They have been busy building stable societies and relieving the bitter misery of their people. Where we have been able to—where our assistance has been wanted—where it has been properly matched by self-help—we have used our wealth to help them and help feed them. For we have learned, we have learned this: Violence breeds in poverty, disease, hunger, and ignorance.

Our purpose is not to breed violence, but to build peace.

The test of our policy is whether the time we have bought has been used to the end that we are building peace.

The evidence of 20 years, I think, suggests that we are meeting that test.

Western Europe's recovery from the ruins of war seems like ancient history to some of you here tonight. But it was only yesterday. Many thought it could not happen in our lifetime. But it did happen—with our help, and it happened behind our shield of protection, and behind our sacrifice of lives and dollars.

Twenty years ago it was clear to the leaders of Western Europe that our shield there was necessary to their future.

Today it is equally clear to Asian leaders that our presence in Vietnam is vital, is necessary, is a must to Asia's tomorrow.

There has been much talk in the United States about the so-called "domino theory"—the theory that if South Vietnam should fall,

its neighbors would topple one after another. And as I pointed out in a speech I recently made in San Antonio, the threat of Communist domination is not a matter of theory for Asians. Communist domination for Asians is a matter of life and death.

But it is now clear, I think, to all Asians that South Vietnam is not going to fall. In every capital of Free Asia that fact has already registered, and registered well. It is being acted upon. What is happening in Asia might really be called the "domino theory in reverse." We do not need to speculate about the results. We know what has happened since we made our stand clear in Vietnam.

Just a few years ago, Southeast Asia was only a geographic phrase. Its separate states had no sense of identity with each other.

All of those states were overwhelmed by the size of their own domestic problems.

Moreover—and most important—they were hypnotized by the menace of China.

Out of this fear—and out of this sense of isolation—this awareness of desperate problems—grew something ominous. It was a paralysis of the will to progress. There was a hopeless feeling among all Asians that they were the victims, rather than the forgers, of their own destiny.

Now, in the span of a few years, all of that, I am glad to say, has changed and the major agent of that change has been America's firmness in Asia.

Behind the shield of our commitment there, hope has quickened in the nations of Asia.

They are banded together in regional institutions to attack common problems:

- to pool their information about how to get more from their land;
- to explore new ways to bring education to their villages;
- to join in the fight against disease;

—to improve their trade with each other, build new industries, and pull together for the economic development of the entire area.

I don't want to generate any false optimism here tonight. I do not want to suggest that all the problems of these nations will be solved soon or will be solved easily.

But I do suggest that, when men weigh the pros and cons of our commitment in Vietnam, they consider this:

The war in Asia is not merely saving South Vietnam from aggression. It is also giving Asia a chance to organize a regional life of progress, cooperation, and stability.

This is no new objective. Our Government supported the Southeast Asia Treaty in 1954 precisely because the stability of that part of the world was judged by the President and the Secretary of State in 1954 and the United States Senate by a vote of 82 to 1 in 1955 to be vital to the security of you and your boys and your girls and your families—you Americans.

The passage of time, I think, has proved that the President, the Secretary, and the Senate's judgment was absolutely correct. I think it is vital to our security.

Now, there are a lot of people who do not think so. There are a lot of people who are looking for the fire escape and the easy way out. They were doing that in Mussolini's time. They were doing that in Hitler's time. They did not think that this was important to the security of the United States until it was almost too late.

We waited a long time here, but better late than never, and now, behind America's protective shield, progress is in motion in Asia where there was none just a few years ago.

This development is as significant for the peace of the whole world as the activities in Europe that I discussed, and the rebirth of

Europe after World War II that all of us participated in. None of us should ever forget that more than half of all human beings in the world live in Asia, and there can be no peace in the world when half of the human beings live in an unstable condition.

On the periphery of the Orient, a new Asia is now building. I saw it. I went there last year. I visited their countries and their peoples.

As this new Asia becomes a firm reality, there is a decent hope that the people on the mainland will also turn their minds to the challenge of economic and social development. There is a decent hope that they will turn to the task of living in dignity and mutual respect with their neighbors.

But our foreign policy is concerned not merely with Asia; American foreign policy is concerned with all the world. And we have acted on that judgment. I want to review very briefly, because you don't hear anything but the complaints that sometimes seem to overshadow the progress we make. The constructive decisions, the march we make forward, doesn't make very interesting reading or reporting.

—We achieved a trilateral agreement with Germany and Great Britain which stabilized our troop levels in Germany and dealt with the balance of payments problems caused by their location.

—We just successfully concluded the negotiation of the Kennedy Round bringing great advantages to the whole world, and a few weeks before it looked rather grim.

—We have just achieved a preliminary monetary accord in London which led to the agreement at Rio with all the members of the International Monetary Fund—laying the basis for a new international reserve currency.

—In the face of the devaluation of the

pound, we worked with the industrial nations of the free world. Our men have been crossing back over the Atlantic on weekends to keep other exchange rates stable and the international system strong.

—We are working with the Soviet Union, our NATO partners, and the other nations of the world to achieve a non-proliferation treaty—which, when complete, will give all countries the opportunity to benefit from the peaceful uses of nuclear technology while reducing the risks of nuclear war.

—In this past week we have moved toward a common position with the industrialized countries of the world to establish special trading benefits which will accelerate progress among the developing nations of the world.

—We have concluded this year two treaties with the Soviet Union, the consular treaty and the space treaty. They have been ratified by the United States Senate.

These achievements rarely make headlines and interest the average citizen. But they are real achievements and real accomplishments, and a failure in any one would make a lot of noise. They represent, we think, the acceptance of joint responsibilities between enlightened leaders. And we are prepared to build upon them.

In the months ahead, I would like to see us work with the institutions of the European communities and with other industrialized nations of the world:

—to make our policies of assistance to the developing nations more effective.

If we have demonstrated that we can work on all of these things that I have outlined, we ought to demonstrate that we can work together in making policies of assistance to developing nations. We should work together to strengthen fur-

ther the world monetary situation.

- to consider together the problems and possibilities of the flow of capital and technology back and forth among us;
- and finally, to examine together and exchange experiences on the problems we all share, the problems of the urban life, the problems of the modern-day cities that have grown every day. And they have reached a point now where they must be dealt with quickly and effectively.

Now, what we have achieved in this year goes beyond these great initiatives:

- After a year's careful preparation, we had the summit conference at Punta del Este at which the nations of Latin America committed themselves to go forward toward economic integration—with America's support.
- We have moved from a dangerous war in the Middle East to an agreed resolution within which a representative of the United Nations will be seeking a stable peace for that troubled region in the months ahead. I shudder to think what could have happened if we had not taken that step and what might have happened if we had not been successful in bringing about a cease-fire in the Middle East just a few months ago.
- We have worked with others to avoid massive bloodshed in the Congo. To the concerned Senators I see tonight, the last of the three American C-130 transport planes will leave the Congo at the end of this week. We have thrown our support behind the regional and sub-regional efforts of the Africans to build a modern life through cooperation—a process that is quietly moving forward in east Africa and greatly advanced by the current conference at Dakar in west Africa.

Tomorrow, the Secretary early in the morning and the Vice President and I a little later in the day, will be meeting with a distinguished American who has been trying to leave public service now for about 7 years. But he has had to come back when we have demonstrations. He has had to go to Detroit to help when we have problems there. He has been in Cyprus and Greece and Turkey trying to solve that matter—Mr. Cyrus Vance.

And he is returning after a successful effort in which Greece and Turkey and Cyprus drew back from the brink of war and opened the way to a major effort to settle the Cyprus problem.

This has been a year of rather remarkable constructive achievements for the American people and for the world community, despite the struggle in Vietnam.

And if the generations which come after us live at peace at all, it is going to be because this generation held the shield and supplied the courage and the fortitude and determination by which peace was built, and because we stubbornly labored to build that peace instead of finding a cheap, dishonorable way out of it.

To those of you who have come here to provide this benefit for Dean Rusk, this rather unusual event, I want to say to you that we have 41 alliances around the world where the commitment and the signature and the agreement of the United States is present—where your President and your Senate and your leadership have made commitments for this Nation.

Now, Dean Rusk didn't make them and I didn't make them. We just have to keep them. If you will keep the faith, we will keep the commitments.

NOTE: The President spoke at 7:38 p.m. in the Benjamin Franklin Room at the Department of State before a group of 400 American business leaders

who were attending a foreign policy conference sponsored by the Department. During his remarks he referred to Dean Rusk, Secretary of State, Walt

Whitman Rostow, Special Assistant to the President, and Cyrus R. Vance, former Deputy Secretary of Defense.

520 Remarks Upon Signing the Partnership for Health Amendments of 1967. December 5, 1967

Mr. Vice President, Secretary Gardner, Chairman Staggers, Members of Congress, ladies and gentlemen:

As President there is nothing that I enjoy doing more than coming here to the East Room and signing health bills.

First, I think it is somewhat of a recognition and a compliment to the Congress for having passed them. And having spent so many years in Congress, I look for every opportunity I can, in good conscience, to compliment them.

This is the second health bill that I have signed this week. That makes me very proud and I think this is something that will make the American people very happy.

This is the 31st health bill that I have signed in the last 4 years. I think that is of some significance because it shows what we are thinking about in this country and it shows what we are doing about it.

The bill that we will sign shortly is a little different from some of the others that we have had. Its purpose is not to create a new program, but to try to consolidate some old ones. It gives our States and it gives our communities new power to mount a total war against sickness and against disease—and they need that power.

Some 2 years ago a noted medical researcher said: "The human body comes in only two shapes and only three colors. I don't expect there are going to be any changes. . . ."

But even if the human body is quite limited in both shape and color, the human body has also unlimited capacity for afflic-

tion. As medical science has discovered more and more of the new ways to cure the body's ills, the Federal Government has responded with more and more health programs, as the number of these measures has indicated—each with a pinpointed target, each valid and each valuable for its own purpose. But the result, after dozens and dozens of health bills enacted in a relatively short period—more health bills have been enacted in the last 4 years than all the preceding years of our Government put together—the result has been a programmatic and bureaucratic nightmare that we frankly must face up to.

So, in this partnership for health measure, we begin to try to cure some of this red tape. We begin to free the Public Health Service from the burden of paperwork so it can fight a more important battle, the battle against disease.

This bill contains a three-part strategy to help them fight that battle against diseases:

First, it offers assistance to States and communities to develop broad-based plans for health. We give them that obligation and that responsibility and call upon them to do their planning.

Second, as quickly as these plans are ready, it provides Federal funds to help carry out these local plans.

Third, it establishes a national program for research and development in health services. Even as we discover new ways to cure disease, we are testing better ways to bring these cures to the people.

So the bill that we will sign contains two significant proposals:

It opens the way to strict Federal and State standards for clinical laboratories. It will help rid the patient of the needless anguish of tests he has had to undergo that might be faulty. We do know from recent studies that as many as one out of four tests performed by some laboratories have been wrong tests.

This bill also deals with a subject that you have heard about and read about and some people have laughed about—the subject of rats.

Throughout history, rats have been the prime delivery system for our filth and for the worst diseases that human beings have. To little children in the slums, rats have really been the public enemy No. 1.

And some people—some important people—I am told—thought it was a joke when we sent up the rat control bill a few months earlier. Some joked about it.

The bill we are signing today shows that the American people are not laughing about it. And it shows that the Congress and the country were listening.

Now it is the turn of State and community

leaders to listen. Now it is time for the health officers to show that by this partnership we mean business.

This is the second consumer bill that I have signed this year. We still have 10 to go: truth-in-lending, pipeline safety, flammable fabrics and wholesome meat.

I had some encouraging words a few moments ago about that.

This wholesome meat bill can relieve every American family from the fear that every frankfurter and hamburger they give their children could be rancid or have something wrong with it.

So, I thank the Congress for what you have brought me to sign and I invite you to give me other work to do.

NOTE: The President spoke at 12:38 p.m. in the East Room at the White House. In his opening words he referred to Hubert H. Humphrey, Vice President of the United States, John W. Gardner, Secretary of Health, Education, and Welfare, and Representative Harley O. Staggers of West Virginia, Chairman of the House Interstate and Foreign Commerce Committee.

As enacted, the bill (H.R. 6418) is Public Law 90-174 (81 Stat. 533).

521 Statement by the President on the Preservation of Peace in Cyprus. *December 5, 1967*

TODAY we gratefully mark an occasion when the exercise of good will and the skill of diplomacy have been productive.

In recent weeks, the danger of a terrible human tragedy has hung over the eastern Mediterranean. Now the Governments of Greece, Turkey, and Cyprus have in cooperation with the United Nations taken necessary steps to remove this threat.

In this undertaking, so momentous for the preservation of peace, they have had the as-

sistance of Mr. Cyrus Vance, whom I welcome here today, and Mr. Manlio Brosio, Secretary General of NATO, and Mr. José Rolz-Bennett, Special Representative of the Secretary General of the United Nations. These three envoys helped the nations concerned explore ways out of a dangerous dilemma.

But peace could not have been preserved without the good will of the governments concerned and their desire for peace or with-

out the prompt and energetic action of the United Nations Secretary General and Security Council.

I congratulate all three governments and all three emissaries. My special gratitude goes to Mr. Vance, who undertook this highly important mission at a moment's notice and carried it out with the greatest skill and total dedication.

As the result of all these efforts, peace has emerged the victor in this crisis. Men

of good will everywhere can be deeply grateful.

But the basic problems of Cyprus remain unsolved. The world must, with a sense of new urgency, work for their resolution to prevent a new threat to peace.

NOTE: On the same day the White House released a statement by Cyrus R. Vance, former Deputy Secretary of Defense, on his mission to the eastern Mediterranean and his subsequent report to the President on the subject (3 Weekly Comp. Pres. Docs., p. 1663).

522 Statement by the President on the Meat Inspection Bill. *December 5, 1967*

I AM pleased with the action of the House and Senate conferees who reported out a strong meat inspection bill today. This bill will help guarantee to every American family that the meat on their table and in their stores and supermarkets will be safe and fit for human consumption.

As early as 1964 I urged an airtight meat inspection bill and the one passed today is a significant step forward and another victory for the American consumer.

NOTE: The meat inspection bill was approved by the President on December 15, 1967 (see Item 541).

523 Statement by the President on the Death of President Oscar Gestido of Uruguay. *December 6, 1967*

IN THE DEATH of President Oscar Gestido Uruguay has lost its great leader, and the hemisphere a distinguished statesman.

His long record of public service to his country earned him a special place in the hearts of his fellow citizens. In the hours of fundamental change in the structure of the Uruguayan Government, they turned to him to direct their destinies.

Those of us who had the privilege to work with him at the meeting of Presidents at Punta del Este last April appreciated the way he conducted that historic conference.

His leadership helped to assure its success as a milestone in inter-American relations.

On behalf of the United States Government and people I extend deepest sympathy to the family of the late President and the Uruguayan nation.

At the same time I express my best wishes to President Jorge Pacheco Areco for success in carrying forward the objectives which he and President Gestido shared.

NOTE: President Gestido died of a heart attack on December 6, 1967, in Montevideo. He had served as President of Uruguay since his election in March 1967.

524 Remarks at a Meeting of the Business Council.

December 6, 1967

IF WE wanted to celebrate the triumphs of our economy tonight, we would have cause enough.

We are now in the 82d month of the American economic miracle. This sustained prosperity is unparalleled in our history.

But it is not celebration which summons us.

We are here, rather, to look at the other side of the ledger—to assess some of the challenges that now threaten our prosperity.

INTERNATIONAL MONETARY PROBLEMS

America's role in world trade and finance is crucial to our prosperity and that of all free nations.

World trade has quadrupled since World War II. We have helped to create that trade—and we have shared fully in its benefits.

In the world network of trade, America's role is doubly important. Our dollar stands at its center—the medium of exchange for most international transactions.

The recent devaluation of the British pound—with the tremors of uncertainty it stirred—makes it even more imperative that we maintain confidence in the dollar.

In the wake of devaluation, we witnessed a remarkable display of international financial cooperation. A speculative attack on the system was decisively repelled.

It was repelled because we stood firmly behind our pledge—which I reaffirm today—to convert the dollar to gold at \$35 an ounce.

It was repelled because the leading governments of the Western World joined with us in that successful defense, at a relatively

small cost in reserves.

But we cannot rest on this victory. We must look ahead. As world trade expands, so must the liquidity required to finance it. That liquidity need not rest on the uncertainties of gold production, consumption, and speculation. Nor can its supply be the responsibility of any one country.

So, even as we reaffirm our pledge to keep our dollar strong—and every ounce of our gold stock stands behind that pledge—we must look beyond gold.

We will press the case for other reserves which can strengthen the international monetary system of tomorrow.

We are joined with other nations in this venture.

Already we have laid out a blueprint. The agreement reached at the International Monetary Fund meeting in Rio is a first important step. It points the way to the creation of supplementary reserves backed by the full faith and credit of the participating nations.

BALANCE OF PAYMENTS

A healthy balance of payments is essential to a sound dollar.

After a decade of deficits, our balance of payments problem still challenges the best efforts of government and business.

In recent years we have made some very real progress. But we find some of that progress offset by the cost of our defense efforts in Southeast Asia, and by events surrounding the devaluation of the pound.

This calls for special effort—by both government and business—to press even harder for progress.

Our investments in defense and foreign

aid are vital to the security of every American. But, for our part in government, we are reducing to the barest minimum the drain of these essential activities on our balance of payments.

Business, too, has responded to the challenge.

In the voluntary balance of payments program, we have seen one of the finest examples of cooperative effort with government. Many firms have helped to reduce the deficit. They have borrowed funds overseas to finance foreign investments rather than borrow here and export our dollars abroad. Others have chosen to defer or scale down their investments.

We ask for even greater voluntary cooperation in 1968.

Before your dollars flow abroad to another industrial nation, ask yourself: Is this for an essential project? If it is, why can't you finance it overseas?

I know that borrowing overseas may cost an extra point or so in interest. But it is a necessary investment. It will strengthen the economy in which we all have a share.

EXPANDING OUR EXPORTS

The best way to strengthen our balance of payments is to expand our exports.

We used to talk of the world market in terms of billions of dollars—and more recently hundreds of billions. Now the economists tell us those measures no longer suffice.

The size of the economy outside the United States today exceeds \$1 trillion.

American business has only begun to fight for this market.

I hope you will take this message back to the board rooms of America: Get going on exports.

We in government have helped you to promote and finance your sales to other markets abroad. We hope to do even more in the future.

But I ask business to remember this: Trade must be a two-way street. Trade must be a fair and competitive race.

You cannot win this race confined by the quotas or high tariff walls the protectionists demand. Those walls have always been barriers to profits. You will win the race with time-tested American business methods—efficiency, better products, lower costs and prices.

Even though we know that a key to balance of payments is to export more, we also know this:

If our prices rise faster than those of our overseas competitors, our exports will suffer and our imports will grow.

A growing export surplus demands that we maintain a higher degree of price stability than our competitors. We have done that over the past 7 years.

THE RESPONSIBILITY OF BUSINESS AND LABOR

The challenge to business and labor is no less compelling than the challenge to government.

We know that wage and price changes are inevitable—and desirable—in a free enterprise system.

But those changes must be restrained by a recognition of the fundamental national interest in maintaining a stable level of overall prices.

If strong labor unions insist on a wage rise twice the nationwide increase in output per man-hour—even where there is no real labor shortage—we are bound to have rising prices.

If members of an industry attempt to raise prices and profit margins—even when they

clearly have excess capacity—we are bound to have rising prices.

Nobody benefits from a wage-price spiral. Labor knows that it does not. You know that business does not. And surely the American people do not.

Yet business says it is labor's responsibility to break the spiral, and labor says it is yours.

I say it is everyone's responsibility.

It is the responsibility of government, of labor, and of business.

I intend to urge labor to restrain its demands for excessive wage increases.

I am urging business tonight to refrain from avoidable price increases, and to intensify its competitive efforts.

To both I say: It is your economy—your

jobs and profits we need to protect. It is your dollar whose strength we must maintain.

For the first time, America is fighting for freedom abroad without resorting to wage and price controls at home.

Voluntary restraint has made involuntary curbs unnecessary.

This is the way it should be done.

This is the way it can be done—if business and labor meet their responsibilities.

NOTE: The President spoke at 8 p.m. at the Mayflower Hotel in Washington before the members of the Business Council, a group of over 100 financial and industrial executives who serve as economic consultants to the Department of the Treasury.

As printed above, this item follows the text released by the White House Press Office.

525 Remarks Recorded for a Television Program on the Report of the National Advisory Commission on Food and Fiber.

December 7, 1967

EVERY MAN enjoys the chance to talk about something that he knows something about. I think that is even true of Presidents.

Agriculture is a subject that has been very close to my heart all of my life. My roots have always been in rural America. That is why I am very happy today to have this chance to remind my fellow Americans of the debt that I think we owe to the American farmer and to his family.

Our farmers have made us the healthiest and the best fed people in all the world, throughout all history. They have given us much more than just the necessities of life. Every day, they bring us a harvest of great quantity and rare quality—and they do it at a cost that the average housewife can easily afford.

Our farmers have shared the richness of their skill and the earth with a hungry world. They have literally saved millions of

people from starvation.

American farm products are vital to our own economic health, and to our strength in the markets of the world. They form the largest part of America's international trade.

American farming techniques today are miracles that create many of the blessings of our abundance. Their efficiency is the envy and the hope of so many nations that seek peaceful and stable development.

Yes, the American farmer has given a great deal to his nation, and he has given much to the world. And, yet, he gets the short end of the stick in return.

Far too often, he gets less than his fair share of the prosperity that he has helped create and that he supports. He gets up at daylight, he works all day long, he comes home hot or cold and tired to his family—and he finally finds that he has been short-changed for his labors. So instead of going to

bed, he sits up with his wife, wrestling with unpaid bills and how to meet the payments.

These things are pretty discouraging. The bills are hard to pay because the farmer himself is underpaid. Now, we must do better by our farmers. We owe it to them to be fair. We owe it to ourselves to be just—and I am not sure that we have been either.

All of us—the college people, the government people, the city people, the farm people—the American people, if you please—should join in conscience and bring new life to the American farmer and to our agricultural programs.

Two years ago, I, as the President of the American people, established the National Advisory Commission on Food and Fiber to try to help us achieve that. We sought and secured 30 outstanding Americans to serve on this Commission. Dean Sherwood Berg, of the Institute of Agriculture at the great University of Minnesota, acted as Chairman.

The President asked this Commission to take a good, hard, long look at our agricultural and our foreign trade policies. I now have their findings and recommendations—and I am encouraged.

Their report will, I hope, move us forward to the goal we seek—giving a fair income to our farmers for their labors—and giving a fair return to the investor in our food and fiber industries.

Now, that is our common responsibility as Americans. We ought to live up to that responsibility. We haven't lived up to it. And we have got to do something about it. So I am very grateful to every member of this Commission for helping us to recognize our debt to our farmers—for showing us how we must and how we may repay the farmer—in full.

Now, I know that we don't have all the final answers. I know that many of them

are around the corner that we haven't turned. But I do believe they will not come easy for any of us; and I do think that I ought to tell you this: The search is underway. The search is not going to stop. We have the very best men that the President can find doing the searching.

"Farming," it has been said, "looks mighty easy when your plow is a pencil, and you are sitting back in an air-conditioned room a thousand miles from a cornfield."

This Commission has not been looking at farming from an air-conditioned room with a pencil over the ear a thousand miles from the farm. From the very first, this Commission understood that there were no easy answers to this problem. If there were, it would have been given to the 35 Presidents who preceded me. This Commission has rejected the extremes of pessimism and optimism.

Our farmers generally have a good deal of pessimism in their system and they have a good deal of justification for it. Now and then we have an adventurer and one that is overly optimistic.

But this Commission has looked instead, not for pessimism or optimism, but for constructive ideas—for fair proposals—for what they believe would be reasonable and yet realistic solutions.

Too often we have had idealistic people that had their eyes on the stars but did not keep their feet on the ground.

I hope, and I believe, that the Commission has succeeded in its general purpose. I believe we are all now better equipped in our national purpose.

So I am very grateful to all of you who believe as I believe—that there is a better day coming for the American farmer, particularly if the farmer himself will unite and will give some of his good hard-headed thinking to this subject.

I think that we need not wait until the cows come home to see this day come. Let's get with it. Let's go at it. Let's unite and put our shoulders to the wheel.

In adversity, you know, the family comes a little closer together. Now, things are not so bad as to say we are all living in adversity. But we do need to better conditions on the farms. If we don't, people are not going to be on the farms any more. There are too few there now. One of the reasons for all of our problems is that so many have left the farms because they were forced to.

So let's try to put aside our prejudices and our selfishness and our individual viewpoints and try to find an area of agreement where

the farmers of the Nation can come together and unite in a common cause—a cause of moving forward for a better world for those who till the soil, and a better world for all of those who live in it.

Thank you very much.

NOTE: The President's remarks were recorded for a broadcast at 10:30 p.m. by stations of the National Educational Television Network.

The report of the National Advisory Commission on Food and Fiber, dated July 1967, is entitled "Food and Fiber for the Future" (Government Printing Office, 361 pp.).

The Commission was established on November 4, 1965, by Executive Order 11256 (1 Weekly Comp. Pres. Docs., p. 457; 30 F.R. 14137; 3 CFR, 1964-1965 Comp., p. 355).

526 The President's Remarks at a News Briefing by Ambassador Eugenie Anderson on Civil Programs in Vietnam. *December 8, 1967*

THIS IS a rush day for us. As you would expect, the father of the bride is quite nervous.

Mrs. Anderson is one of the three women whom I asked to go to Vietnam. I asked them to spend whatever time they could spend there, see whatever they could see there, and to record the observations and any suggestions or helpful hints—from a sideline objective viewpoint—that would be helpful to us.

Mrs. Anna Lord Strauss, Mrs. Anderson, and Mrs. [Norman] Chandler of the Los Angeles Times family, were the three women who went there and spent roughly 10 days reviewing the constructive and reconstructive program that is going on.

I didn't send them to advise General West-

moreland or submit any military strategy recommendations. But I did ask them to go and see what parts of the country they could; how the people were living; what we were doing with our refugee problem, our pacification program, all our programs in those areas.

Mrs. Anderson, as you know, and Mrs. Strauss, and Mrs. Chandler are all experienced women in their respective fields, all of which requires good reporting.

I stressed that I could get subjective reporting free; what I want is objective reporting. They are trying to do that. She is making suggestions to the various people out there—Ambassador Komer and Ambassador Bunker and his group.

She is back here now and seeing the people

here who have charge of looking into these things she is talking about.

She can talk to you about any of the details. I would say that she has reviewed with me the quality of our personnel, civilian and military.

She observed the attitude and morale of our troops as she could see and hear it; the constructive programs that are taking place with which she has been identified in the United Nations and as an Ambassador to the Scandinavian countries, and the general constructive and reconstructive effort that we are making there.

We used to say we have the military here and the civilian here and we are going to try to do both of them together.

Well, she has been looking at the other side of it. She has seen some very heartening things and also some problems. I guess we always have some of those.

That is all I want to say.

NOTE: The President spoke at 1:05 p.m. in his office at the White House. During his remarks he referred to Gen. William C. Westmoreland, Commander, United States Military Assistance Command, Vietnam, Robert W. Komer, Special Assistant to the President for Peaceful Reconstruction in Vietnam, and Ellsworth Bunker, U.S. Ambassador to the Republic of Vietnam.

Following his remarks Ambassador Anderson replied to questions from the press and summarized the 10-day inspection tour made by herself and her colleagues. The survey included visits to self-help projects directed by Vietnamese students in the refugee-crowded 8th District of Saigon; to the Revolutionary Development Training Center at Vung Tau near Saigon; and to Revolutionary Development Centers, returnee reception centers, and pacified villages in Tay Ninh Province near the Cambodian border, in Danang and Hue, in the Montagnard area of the Central Highlands near Da Lat, and in the Mekong Delta to the south.

Mrs. Anderson was currently serving as United States Representative on the Trusteeship Council of the United Nations. The full text of her remarks is printed in the Weekly Compilation of Presidential Documents (vol. 3, p. 1673).

As printed above, this item follows the text released by the White House Press Office.

527 Statement by the President Upon Signing Bill Establishing the Judge Advocate General's Corps, USN. *December 8, 1967*

I HAVE today signed H.R. 12910 to establish a Judge Advocate General's Corps in the Navy.

This does not mean the Navy is hiring lawyers for the first time. Legal officers have served in the Navy for more than a century. More than 900 serve today in the Navy and Marine Corps.

This Act gives them a new professional status and organization. For the first time it creates a staff corps comparable to the Judge Advocate General's Corps in the Army and Air Force. It gives Navy lawyers the

same professional recognition accorded to doctors, dentists, chaplains, and others who perform specialized duties.

At a time when the Navy's need for legal services is increasing, this measure will help attract and retain good lawyers.

I also note, for the better half of our population, that this Act—for the first time—permits women to serve as lawyers in the Navy.

LYNDON B. JOHNSON

NOTE: As enacted, the bill (H.R. 12910) is Public Law 90-179 (81 Stat. 545).

528 Veto of Bill Granting Masters of Vessels a Lien on Those Vessels for Their Wages and Certain Disbursements.
December 9, 1967

[Released December 9, 1967. Dated December 8, 1967]

To the House of Representatives:

I am returning H.R. 162 without my approval.

This measure could seriously endanger private financing for ship construction.

It could lead to far greater government subsidies for the merchant fleet—and place an undue and unnecessary financial burden on the American taxpayer.

It could also result in extended litigation.

In short, H.R. 162 is bad public policy.

The preferred ship mortgage is a useful and time-tested private financing device for building our merchant fleet. The holders of these mortgages are now secured creditors. Under existing law, their liens are paid immediately after those for seamen's wages, tort judgments or other contract liens which attached prior to the preferred mortgage.

The mischief in H.R. 162 is this: it would—for the first time—give the highest priority lien to those who contract with the ship's master for ship supplies and other items. As a result, it places these suppliers and contractors in a superior position to the holders of preferred ship mortgages.

In substance, H.R. 162 could reduce the preferred mortgage holder virtually to the status of an unsecured creditor.

This could destroy the usefulness of the preferred ship mortgage as a means of privately financing merchant ship construction—a method which Congress itself authorized and approved in the Ship Mortgage Act of 1920.

Some portions of H.R. 162 are desirable. I believe it is wise to give the master of a vessel a lien for his wages that would have the same high priority as a seaman has for his. This affords the master greater protection for the fruits of his labor.

If the Congress enacts a bill so safeguarding the ship master's wages—without the offending provision I have discussed above—I would be happy to approve it.

LYNDON B. JOHNSON

The White House

December 8, 1967

NOTE: A modified shipmasters' lien bill (H.R. 14401) was approved by the President on April 25, 1968 (Public Law 90-293; 82 Stat. 107).

529 Television Interview With the President and Mrs. Johnson Recorded in Connection With the Wedding of Their Daughter Lynda Bird. *December 9, 1967*

[Held with Raymond L. Scherer of NBC News, Frank Reynolds of ABC News, and Dan Rather of CBS News]

MR. SCHERER. Mrs. Johnson, isn't this going to be a terribly lonely house with both your

daughters married and gone?

MRS. JOHNSON. Ray, I am sure there will be moments when I will walk into Lynda's room and stand quietly and look at it. And there will be those things in the mirror, you

know—a snapshot, a sort of a yellowed newspaper story, a napkin with something from a party on it.

And those Ernest Shephard drawings on the wall that she loved so well, you know, from the Winnie the Pooh books. Then I will have a sudden little wave of loneliness. But, no, not essentially. There will always be activity and excitement here.

They will be coming back lots of times. Speaking of loneliness, the other day I walked through a room where there was a picture, a family picture of us, and I just stopped and looked at it. There were just the four of us. And I thought how poor. Now we are seven.

Well, that doesn't make for loneliness. That just makes for more happiness when you can get together.

MR. SCHERER. Mr. President, how do you feel on that point?

THE PRESIDENT. Very much the same.

I was at the bachelors' dinner last night. They asked me to make a few observations. I told them that there were many pluses and minuses in life, as I was not unaware. I have had opportunity to be reminded on occasion of the minuses, but I am not sure that I ever stressed the great pluses for me. And they were my three girls—Mrs. Johnson, and Lynda, and Luci.

The thing that gives me added strength is that I have increased that number of three that I look to for comfort and for strength and for help to six now. Of course, Patrick Lyndon has his own way of giving it to you. And I wouldn't say it is effective on a mass basis yet.

But Pat Nugent was there and Chuck Robb was there. And the increase of the family does give me increased satisfaction.

MR. RATHER. We, of course, have seen them over the years, Mrs. Johnson and Mr.

President, and have our own impressions.

But I wonder if you could talk with us a bit about the differences in Lynda's personality and Luci's personality. There has been a lot written and said about it. I wonder if you could talk with us what you think the differences in their personalities are?

MRS. JOHNSON. Well, they are just as different as they can be. Luci is sort of the eternal Eve. She is extremely feminine. She is female before she is a person—dainty, oriented toward clothes and children and house.

Lynda is, oh, she is so intelligent and so companionable. So—she has a questing mind and a great sense of excitement in facing life. She is my best companion for a lot of things that we do together—trips, going to plays, and going to art galleries. None of that makes the slightest bit of difference in the measure that you love them, you know.

I had the best little insight on that last night, Dan, in their differences, when we had—Lyndon spoke of the party that he went to. Here, there was a very small one, just the bridesmaids. They did let the two mothers come down for awhile.

And Luci wrote a poem about her life with her sister which ended with a delightful little line about as "children and sisters and friends." And so they change with the years, you know, and they emerge as friends.

And all of their differences are very, very apparent and make life a lot more exciting.

MR. RATHER. Mr. President, there are those who have said over the years that Luci was your favorite. Would you talk to us about the contrasting personalities of the girls?

THE PRESIDENT. I think that I have never known many parents who had favorites among their own children. I think you see different things in different children. I think Mrs. Johnson has expressed it very well.

They are quite different.

Luci writes it and Lynda reads it.

Lynda very much wants to—is a very curious person and wants to know all about everything that has been written that she has heard much about. She pursues it. She digests it. She assimilates and she retains it.

She is a very good student and that has been emphasized in all of her work.

Luci, on the other hand, is very gay and not concerned with being Phi Beta Kappa or leading the class or making the honor society, although her grades were quite good and we were pleased with them.

But, Luci, instead of going to a book and enjoying a poem, would just save time by writing it.

Luci, I expect, could prepare a pretty good cookbook and prepare a better meal. She has unique tastes.

I like to think that Luci is like my mother and my mother was one of my favorites, one of my very special favorites.

The only one I ever had to compare with her is the one that Lynda is like. That is Lynda's mother.

They are quite two different people. One is a "blonde." One is a "brunette". Both of them were good students. One of them was pretty conservative and prudent and careful and business conscious.

After all, Mrs. Johnson is the only one in our family that has ever met a payroll, you know.

Mother was creative, literary, producer of plays, and producer of poems, and producer of articles, and things of that nature, and not much concerned about who was going to buy the paper or pay for the—or meet the payroll or any of the things you really have to know.

MRS. JOHNSON. The best thing of all is that they just put their own talents, com-

bine them, into making the family, into giving to the family.

THE PRESIDENT. I see in Lynda her mother every time she writes a check. I see in Luci her grandmother every time she can't find her checkbook and doesn't know what her balance is.

MR. REYNOLDS. Mr. President, you once told us you were very proud of Captain Robb because he did not presume to speak for you when reporters asked him what you said when he asked you for Lynda's hand. What do you think of this young man who is about to marry your daughter?

THE PRESIDENT. I like him very much. I read his press conference the other day and I am going to try to emulate it. I hope that I don't have to stay under fire for over an hour as he did. I want to keep ours to 30 minutes.

But I think that he is a young man of unusual experience and he has made the most of it.

MR. REYNOLDS. You once indicated to us, sir, right after the engagement was announced that it was primarily Lynda's decision and not one to be made by you.

THE PRESIDENT. Oh, of course, all of their romances have been their decisions. Luci and Lynda have had friends throughout the years—some closer than others; some they were more interested in than others. But all the people they have brought in the house we have been interested in and we have tried to enjoy them and make them a part of the family—and, generally speaking, they have been.

I am quite optimistic about this generation. I have liked what I have seen and what has come here and what has gone from here, and what is—and all of them that fill the rooms here today, the bridesmaids and their escorts and so forth.

I had to give up tutoring Luci in about the 10th grade, because she had already passed me. I am pretty high on this generation. I think that Captain Robb and Pat Nugent are two very unusual boys. And I think we are very fortunate to have them. And as near as I can see, with the many, many temptations that they have had, the embarrassments that have come from their conduct are unknown to me.

MR. SCHERER. Mr. President, how does it affect a Commander in Chief, so to speak, to know that his new son-in-law is going off to a war?

THE PRESIDENT. Well, I guess you are glad that you have a son-in-law who has had the training, several years in an elite group like the Marines, who is prepared and equipped to look after his country's interests. I feel that way about all the Marine Corps and the boys in the other services, too.

I am grateful for them. They are a mighty fine group of people that I think we don't really appreciate enough. It is pretty hard to appreciate a man enough who is willing to give his life for your liberty.

Chuck Robb came out of the University of Wisconsin and by choice went in the Marines and has led them ever since. And I won't have any doubt about the group that he follows out there or the group that he leads. I believe that it will be well done.

MR. RATHER. Mrs. Johnson, I know that you and Lynda must have had long conversations just before the wedding. What pieces of advice did you give her?

Mr. President, I would be interested to know what pieces of advice you had for her.

MRS. JOHNSON. I wouldn't really quite presume to advise her. You just live your life, you know. And then—you spend 23 years trying not to give advice but help show and direct and train. And then it's—well, every

now and then you get a nice bonus of satisfaction when you find out that they are reacting in the way that you hope they will—the wisest and right.

MR. RATHER. You haven't found that actually stating advice has been very effective or a good way to raise the girls?

MRS. JOHNSON. Not as orders. What I have learned from life and what I think is the wisest course, yes. Sometimes you just have to flatly state the difference between right and wrong and say this is what you ought to do. But, oh, I don't think you can sit down and give a pattern for a young girl of 23 who has already acquired her system of values and her beliefs about life and behavior.

MR. REYNOLDS. Mr. President, if you could give these two young people anything at all, what would it be?

THE PRESIDENT. Well, that is very difficult for me to say. I, of course, want them, more than anything else, to have a grasp and understanding of other people. You are concerned from the time you get up until you go to sleep at night with human relationships. Over the years I have tried to do that. I think that they have had unusual opportunities in that respect.

Both of them have been on the platform since they were little tots. 1964, I remember Luci waking me up at 3 o'clock one night and I was rather irritated that a boy would be bringing her in that late. It was 3 o'clock Monday morning, as a matter of fact. She and I were in the house together.

I got up and asked her to give an accounting why she was coming in so late. She said, "Well, daddy, I have been to North Dakota and South Dakota and Nebraska this weekend. And I made 11 speeches and we are in trouble in Nebraska." That was why she was late coming in.

I think that I would want them to do unto others as they would have them do unto them and that they would always try to put themselves in the other fellow's position and say, "I just want to exchange positions with you and see how I would feel about that reaction."

If they do that on everything from the minor to the major decisions, I believe they would have a better state of mind. I believe they would be more successful. I think they would be more satisfied with themselves. I think they would contribute more to their country.

I think it is more valuable to them to understand human beings and try to engage in that objective that is primary with all of us—bettering humanity. I think that is the best way to better humanity—to understand humanity. The best way to understand humanity is to put yourself in the other fellow's position and say, "If I were in his place, how would I feel about the reaction I am giving him? Am I treating him like I would like to be treated?"

Mrs. Johnson and I have tried, in our relationship with each other, to bear that in mind.

I felt it so strongly that many years ago, for a Christmas present, I gave my wife and my daughters a little watch that had the Golden Rule on it. Sometimes, particularly when the press shoves me too far, I have to look at that watch and be reminded of that and count 10 before I respond.

But I think that is about as valuable a thing as a person can have—understanding his fellow man and trying to devote his life to bettering him.

MR. SCHERER. Mrs. Johnson, does one ever really become accustomed to raising daughters in a goldfish bowl?

MRS. JOHNSON. I can't say that I have found it too difficult. There are so many

counter-balancing things—so many opportunities, interesting, exciting, significant people; a sense that you are on the front row of a great drama that is unfolding and that you have an opportunity to contribute a little bitty bit to it—oh, I couldn't say it has been bad. It has had some annoying moments. But not much.

And in line with what Lyndon was saying a few minutes ago about understanding, one of the best things that ever happened to me was the opportunity when he was off in the war to work for 6 months in his office. I don't think I ever got quite as annoyed at him afterwards for being late for dinner or being sometimes exasperated. I hope my children can somehow acquire that same sort of understanding. It helps.

MR. SCHERER. Mr. President, how much of a problem has this been for you raising Lynda in the bright light of publicity?

THE PRESIDENT. It has its very great advantages to me and to the children—as well as its minuses—the contacts with knowledgeable people, the interests of members of the Cabinet in young high school or college girls.

I have seen Dean Rusk and Bob McNamara and Secretaries Fowler and Wirtz and others sit around here and talk over governmental questions with Luci and Lynda while—

MRS. JOHNSON. The children don't seem to know there is a gap in age and importance. They just sit and listen and sometimes speak up a bit.

THE PRESIDENT. This happened when I was talking to another Cabinet member about something quite private. I think it has broadened their horizons and given them different viewpoints—better understanding—and taken away some of the shyness and some of the hesitancies that would go with girls of that age.

On the other hand, I have seen very cruel things happen to them because of their father's position or because of their connection with the White House. I have bristled a good many times. I haven't written any letters yet, but I have bristled and choked myself.

George Christian has had to pat me even last night on one little item where Lynda—something is attributed to her that she had no connection with at all—never heard of—a credibility problem. She can't get it back though. I think that is true of all parents. Something that is unjust and hurts their child hurts them even more.

My father used to say to me that you will never know what it is to be a father until you are one.

He also said to me, when he would spank me as a youngster, "Lyndon, this hurts me worse than it does you." I never did quite believe that. I wondered if he really knew how much it was hurting me and how could it hurt him that much.

But I can see now when they are pulled in unjustly, charged with this or that, and it is untrue, no basis for it, just clear out of the air sometimes, when some person, political or otherwise, will say this, it hurts me very much.

So those are the disadvantages. You can just think what would happen to Luci if she had a paper cup of beer. You can think about what would happen if Lynda went through an orange light and her brake didn't hold. It is front page. It is special shows. And it is dramatized. Maybe she is ostracized.

But those, in the whole general picture, are very minor and unimportant compared to the advantages to them of the associations and the responsibilities they have, as well as their contribution to the success of their father's program.

I don't know anyone who has done more to help me try to better humanity than my wife and my two daughters.

Luci, I believe, was in 26 States, Lynda was approximately the same number—24 or 25. They made four or five speeches a day on their own, without any ghost writers, standing up on the platform of a train or on a box or at a picnic or out with the youngsters on a college campus. And the fact that you haven't read any too terrible things about them—some of the boys that have suffered unjustly, I think, because their name became associated with one or the other of them at times.

The kids started hurraing them and they got into columns. That speculation started and that exaggeration came. But if I had it all to do over, I doubt that they could have a more satisfying experience than to be the children of public servants. I doubt that they could be more broad-gauged or learn more about what it is all about in life than to have had a little experience in the Congress and in the Senate and the Vice Presidency and the Presidency.

After all, men like Dean Rusk and Bob McNamara and Sam Rayburn, and Abe Fortas and Clark Clifford and folks like that are pretty good to have around with your girls and to teach them.

MR. RATHER. Mr. President, you mentioned that your father did not spare the rod with you, that he did spank you. Were you pretty heavy with the hairbrush with the girls?

MRS. JOHNSON. Well, boys are more difficult than are girls now. He was probably a difficult boy in his time.

THE PRESIDENT. Oh, I was an outlaw compared to these dainty little girls. We have never had any problem like that with them. I think they are so good because I

have had very little to do with raising them.

Their mother is the one that has brought them up. The first few years with Lynda I did have to—I assumed the authority and did discipline her on occasion very much to her mother's dissatisfaction and to Lynda's.

On one occasion, I was trying to settle something that needed to be decided, and from my viewpoint, quickly with the Speaker or with someone else who might be having dinner with me. And Lynda was determined that she should be the center of attraction. The Speaker would be glad to have that happen because he didn't want it decided anyway. I had to take Lynda upstairs a time or two with my hand, a kind of [*the President clapped his hands*] on the back end, and she would—

But by the time Luci came along, she gave Lynda all the tricks and the things not to do and we haven't had any problems since then.

MR. RATHER. How did you handle discipline with the girls, Mrs. Johnson? It is always difficult, I think, more difficult to discipline girls than it is boys. How did you handle the discipline problem?

MRS. JOHNSON. I don't think so at all. I really don't have any experience with boys. But I haven't found it difficult with the girls.

MR. RATHER. Well, how did you handle discipline when they didn't do something that you thought they should do? Particularly as they got older. What kind of discipline did you impose on them?

MRS. JOHNSON. I just talked to them, Dan, and told them what I thought were the two sides of it.

THE PRESIDENT. The answer is she didn't apply any, Dan. She would just say, "Always remember you are trusted, always remember you are loved, always remember we care and

I know that you are going to do what is right."

They haven't had any hours. They haven't had any limitations. They haven't had any things that—you cannot smoke, you must not drink, you cannot do any of these things. We don't have them.

MRS. JOHNSON. It really got across, though, the idea about hours. However we did it. They learned about not staying out too late.

MR. REYNOLDS. Mrs. Johnson, with all these preparations going on right now—you recently observed an anniversary. Do you think back to your own wedding?

MRS. JOHNSON. Yes.

MR. REYNOLDS. Quite a bit different, was it?

MRS. JOHNSON. Very simple.

MR. SCHERER. Mrs. Johnson, we are told mothers have an intuition about these things. Did you know, did you sense when Lynda first brought Captain Robb around that he was the one after all of her other boyfriends?

MRS. JOHNSON. Ray, I think the tipoff is when Lynda Bird began to say—about the second time that she said, "Mother, I want you to know Chuck better." When she begins to say—to plan that we sit down and talk, I began to sense then that this had some deeper implications, and so I was eager to do it.

And I liked it. I like knowing their friends. That has been one of the good things about our life. They have brought them home, lots of them.

THE PRESIDENT. I don't know when I have enjoyed an evening more than I did last night when I sat with some oh, 75 or 100 boys. Young men, some just back from Vietnam sat at the table with us, some just going to Vietnam, some professional men, some young teachers, doctors in the 25 to 30 age

group. Some singing, and toasting and performing with jokes and things of that kind.

Then I went around and met with each of them and—it was quite an exhilarating experience. I wish they weren't so concealed and hidden from the American people. I wish that all America could see them en masse, just what the parents of this country have done and the kind of young man that we are producing. And I think it would make us all feel good.

MR. REYNOLDS. You don't worry about the younger generation then, Mr. President, do you?

THE PRESIDENT. Oh, yes, all the time. I worry about their opportunities and how they can keep their eyes on the stars and plenty of adventure and vision, how we can be on the same wavelength and still keep their feet on the ground and be realistic.

The great quality of youth is its hope and its dream and its vision. We must capture all of that without—and still keep a little realism in it and make it possible.

I have heard, through my 37 years here, I have heard many doubters talk about these boys—"How in the world could they ever bring Hitler to his knees, these 17-year old, fuzzy-faced kids that have never been away from home?"

I have seen men get up on the floor of the Congress and talk about how we were going to the dogs. I heard that for 30 years here. But then I saw those same kids in their B-17's go across both oceans, carry Old Glory around the world and bring her back without a stain on it.

And it showed me then that you don't want to be too quick to judge all youth by the few exhibitionists. They are definitely in the minority. I saw that in World War II. I saw it in Korea. I think it is greatly empha-

sized now because of television.

We see a few people and we think that this represents the young manhood and young womanhood of the country. It doesn't. It just represents the dramatic. And sometimes, we help them make it dramatic.

I read the other day where some television company brought in the signs. The youth didn't have them so they brought some of their own along, to use in case they could get pictures of the picketing.

Now, maybe that college had 20,000 people and perhaps a scene of that kind will involve 20 or 200.

Now, we have had that all through our life from the Revolutionary period on down. They are young people. There are some of them—we don't see everything alike or we would all want the same things.

But we are seeing more of the same every day in small groups here. I saw a different group last night.

MR. REYNOLDS. No picket signs?

THE PRESIDENT. I saw men who loved their liberty and their freedom and who were actually dedicating their all to trying to preserve it and really believed very deeply in what they were doing. That is not to say that those who disagree with them are not equally as sincere.

But I was very proud of these men who are willing to assume the responsibilities they are. I think if you look at the boy in 1968 and look at his father in 1928, you will see that the curve has been going upward in intelligence, in understanding, in better bodies, in better minds, in better education, in better—more material things available to them, and better living.

I am glad to see it, and I think that the next 20 years it will continue to go up. Now there are some who think it is going to the

bad. But I am not one of them.

MR. SCHERER. Thank you, Mrs. Johnson. Thank you, Mr. President.

MR. REYNOLDS. Thank you, Mr. President and Mrs. Johnson.

MR. RATHER. Thank you very much.

NOTE: The joint interview was held at 11:25 a.m., December 8, in the Family Sitting Room at the White House, and was broadcast on December 9 following the wedding of Lynda Bird Johnson to Capt. Charles S. Robb, USMC. The ceremony took place in the East Room at the White House.

530 Statement by the President Urging Passage of the Safe Streets and Crime Control Act. *December 11, 1967*

AN ANNOUNCEMENT today from the Department of Justice illustrates the awesome consequences of delaying new Federal support for our police departments and other agencies of criminal justice.

The Attorney General and the Director of the FBI announced that local police departments report a 16-percent increase in crime during the first 9 months of 1967.

This increase underscores the urgency of my request 10 months ago for the most comprehensive anticrime legislation in the Nation's history: the Safe Streets and Crime Control Act.

Had Congress acted promptly, our police and others on the frontline in the fight

against crime would be receiving new support which they so desperately need. The Federal Government would now be investing \$50 million in local agencies of criminal justice, laying the groundwork for a \$300 million action program next year.

The delay has been costly to the American people. I urge that it not be continued. Once again, I urgently recommend passage of the Safe Streets and Crime Control Act as soon as possible. Mounting evidence of its need can be ignored only at our own peril.

NOTE: The Omnibus Crime Control and Safe Streets Act of 1968 was approved by the President on June 19, 1968 (Public Law 90-351, 82 Stat. 197). The statement was released at San Antonio, Texas.

531 Statement by the President on the Use of Surplus Federal Lands for Model Communities in Atlanta and San Antonio. *December 12, 1967*

THE PROPERTY of the Federal Government belongs to all of the people.

Wherever possible, surplus land should be turned to their benefit.

The Federal Government will cooperate fully with private enterprise and State and local government to transform these surplus and idle lands into new communities.

The American people, I believe, want to see government and private enterprise join

together to build decent homes for citizens who have never known their comfort, and to provide new training opportunities for those who want to improve their lives.

The projects in Atlanta and San Antonio are directed to those goals. We hope in the months ahead to see more communities for the people take shape on surplus Federal land.

NOTE: The statement was made public as part of a

White House release announcing a further step in the program launched by the President on August 30, 1967 (see Item 372).

The Atlanta community, the announcement said, would be located on a 95-acre surplus Department of Justice tract and would include 400 low-cost housing units, parklands, schools, and a light industrial area.

In San Antonio, the announcement added, the

community would occupy 200 surplus acres at Fort Sam Houston and accommodate some 4,500 low-income citizens. Job opportunities for the unemployed would be provided "through special training programs and a light manufacturing center."

The Presidential task force appointed in August, the release concluded, was continuing surveys for similar communities in 48 cities across the Nation.

The statement was released at San Antonio, Texas.

532 Remarks at the Dedication of Central Texas College, Killeen, Texas. December 12, 1967

Dr. Morton, General Mather, Mrs. Hobby, Mr. Bingham, Mr. Smith, ladies and gentlemen, boys and girls:

I am glad to be able to join you here today, not only to mark the founding of a new college, not only to cheer the progress of this city and this great State, but to join with you in helping to celebrate the expansion that is taking place in America.

In 1900 we had eight junior colleges in the United States. In 1964 we had 694.

As I speak here this morning we have 925. That is an increase of 231 in 3 years.

While others have been complaining and agonizing, worrying, being frustrated, and criticizing, we have been building 231 educational institutions that will take care of our boys and girls.

In 1948 when I visited Killeen and Temple, we talked, worked, and planned for the day when all of our youngsters could get all the education they could take.

I am happy to say that although it took us from 1948 to 1968, in 1968 we have 1 million more boys and girls in the colleges and universities of this land because of the Federal programs that we have put in between 1948 and 1968, most of which have been in the last 3 or 4 years.

Now, this dedication means growth and it means progress for all of America. It tells us

something important about the real purpose of democracy.

That purpose of democracy is fulfillment for every individual. It illustrates what makes America different from other lands. What does make America different from other lands? Opportunity, abundance of opportunity.

It also reveals some things about where America has been, and where America is going.

In 1884 Killeen was a 2-year-old village which boasted two dress factories, one cotton gin, and a population a little less than Johnson City—a population of 350.

As we meet here this morning, Killeen can claim more than 500 thriving businesses, one of the world's most powerful major defense installations, and more than 30,000 people.

The city has more than tripled its growth in 20 years. That growth reflects our whole Nation's restlessness; our whole Nation's hope; our whole Nation's progress.

A little more than a century ago this was great frontier country. Families came here in the buckboards and covered wagons from Virginia, Georgia, and Kentucky to settle this land.

My grandfather drove his longhorns across this prairie on his way to Abilene, Kansas.

We came to found towns, and to write laws, and to establish schools and churches.

I am so happy to observe that my father, decades ago, sat with Oveta's father in writing some of the early legislation for what was then almost just a frontier.

Now, what they began has not yet ended. Those Americans gave really a new meaning to the word "frontier."

In other countries, that word had meant a barrier. "Frontier" had meant a stopping place. But to America it meant, and still means, a place to be discovered, a place to be tamed, a place to be settled, a place—if you please—of American opportunity.

Today there is no Louisiana Territory to be purchased. There is no new wilderness for us to conquer. There is no new land left for us to settle. But still America moves on.

America expands—not outward but upward.

I can see some of the men here in front of me this morning—Mr. Smith, Mr. Mather, Mr. Province, and others—who have been moving America forward, who have been moving it upward.

Today we have set our eyes on new territory—the territory of human promise, for all of central Texas, and for all of the Nation—the territory of bettering peoples' lives in all of our areas, bettering humanity.

That is the thing we all ought to work toward. That is the purpose and the objective we all ought to have.

Every person here should ask himself and herself today: What am I doing to better humanity?

In the time allotted me, what will I have done to better humanity?

When a Teacher Corps volunteer brings help and learning to a mountain child—we will say in Tennessee or North Carolina—we add something to that new land.

When a Head Start teacher in California

offers hope and help to a migrant child, this Nation grows.

Speaking of help, our program has been health, education, conservation, and moving forward.

I am happy to say that the death rate of newborn children—infants—declined more than 5 percent this last year.

Now, can there be anything better than saving a little child's life? Can there be any more worthy purpose?

When a new college arises—a junior college in a Texas city—the whole Nation expands.

When a new national effort is launched to teach men skills or to cure men's sickness, America grows.

Something is happening which is as exciting—even more exciting—than the winning of the West.

Three years ago there was no Medicare in the United States. This morning 20 million older citizens have hospital insurance. Eighteen million have help with their medical bills under medical care.

That is what we have been doing.

Three years ago there was a deadlock on Federal aid to education. Federal aid was an ugly word. We broke that deadlock in 1965 with the Elementary and Secondary Education Act.

We passed a bill in the Senate yesterday—and sent it to conference—giving us a new lease on life. Last year that bill helped 9 million poor children get a better start in school.

What is there that you can do, even the doubters and the complainers, that could give any of us more satisfaction than helping 9 million poor children get a better start in school?

Ask yourself what have you done in these fields and what are you going to do.

When the roll is called up yonder, where are you going to be?

In the past 3 years we have helped to build facilities for more than 1.5 million college and university students. What is there that you can do that is better than putting a roof, an educational roof, over the heads of the boys and girls who want to go to college in this country?

From the time a child discovers America, that doting mother looks into the little one's eyes and says to herself, "If I can only get him a college education."

Well, together, we in Killeen and we in the United States—notwithstanding the complainers, the critics, and the doubters—are getting the schools built. We are getting the teachers for elementary, and from Head Start to adult education.

We have them in Head Start at four and five, and we have them in adult education at 74 and 75.

Yet still there are those who want to divert us, who want to criticize us, who want to oppose this kind of growth.

Just as there were a century ago, there are many who are afraid to take the journey.

There are some who tell us in the board room resolutions that it is too expensive. There are some who say that it is too dangerous, that the effort cannot succeed.

Well, that reminds me of the old fellow at Fredericksburg when we started the train up there. He had preached against it. He discouraged it. He wouldn't subscribe to it. He wouldn't even be on the committee promoting it. But when the train finally came and we had the queen and she cut the ribbon, and the steam started coming out, the train started moving from the hill country into San Antonio.

While they were cutting the ribbon, he was in the back yakking that we will never get the train started.

And when she pulled out and the steam was over his head and drowning him out

with the smoke, he said, "Well, they will never get her stopped."

I imagine Killeen has some like that today. I know that Texas has some like that today. I hear voices from all over the Nation like that today.

I believe—I can't prove it but we may have to do that—those complainers, those doubters, those who are afraid to take the journey in this frontier country are still in the minority.

So I ask you to join us. Come and let us reason with those Americans. Those of us who believe in progress, let us try to convince the doubters.

I think the time is here to make it clear that we must make this journey. If we are rich enough, then we must care enough. We must be ready to make the sacrifices it requires.

In 1933 our gross national product was less than \$100 billion. It wavered to less than half of that for a period.

Today and tomorrow that gross national product is hitting \$800 billion, and it may go up to \$850 billion.

So we are rich enough.

Now the big question is: With your stomachs full, has it pressed your heart out of position where you no longer care? If you do care, then let us do something about it.

Are there those who think this journey toward human fulfillment, this journey toward bettering humanity, is too expensive?

Well, these men who wear the uniform don't think it is too expensive. They love liberty and they love freedom enough that they are ready to die to preserve it.

These boys over here at A & M don't think that it ought to go unnoticed. It has gone unnoticed but I heard on a local radio broadcast that they had voted to give blood donations to support their brothers who are preserving liberty and who have carried Old

Glory to all corners of the earth and brought it back without a stain on it.

So, let us show by our actions that progress and movement forward in America is not too expensive. What is expensive is sickness, bigotry, ignorance, discrimination, and crime. That is what costs too much.

As that great leader Adlai Stevenson once said, "We Americans must resist temptation to be 'pennywise and people foolish.'"

It is not action but it is inaction that costs too much.

Are there those who really believe that this journey cannot succeed?

Well, let them consider just one effort—and that is our campaign to give every young person in America—that is the first goal of the Great Society—give every boy and girl, whether born of rich or poor parents, all the education that he or she seeks and can take.

In the past 6 years the number of young people going to college from poor homes has risen—thank God—by more than 12 percent.

In those years, the number of high school dropouts—thank God—between 16 and 24, has dropped from 25 to only 18 percent.

Colleges like this one being established and built here are being built throughout this Nation at the rate of one every week.

You don't like that? You are against that? You would rather fight it than teach it up and learn it?

Two years ago we were helping 500,000 young people go to college. Next year that number rises not to 500,000 but to 1,200,000.

Now, those are facts. They are not numbers and they are not slogans. They are not snow or brainwash or anything else. They are facts. And more than facts they are victories for bettering humanity. They are victories for every American home and for all the American people.

Two years ago we established a program called Upward Bound. Upward Bound was

a program that would rescue dropouts and would boost them toward college.

It was almost patterned after an experience I had in 1924 when I went to California after I dropped out, to seek my fortune. The most beautiful sight these eyes ever beheld was the sight of my old mother's quilt, that grandma had made for us, when I got back home.

My father, I felt when I left, was too inattentive and not very wise in the ways of the world. I was really amazed how much he had learned while I was gone.

Two years ago that program of Upward Bound was an experiment. Today that program is a success.

This year, 23,000 poor boys and girls took summer classes on college campuses. Six thousand of them—83 percent of those who graduated—have gone on to higher education.

One boy from Missouri told this story: "Before I went out there to Upward Bound I was a corner boy . . . I was with the wrong bunch all the time. We stayed up late doing all sorts of no-good things . . . But I think I am too much now to hang around on the corner . . . I know my life is worth more than how they taught me to lead it."

I think he is right. And I think we were all right to help that kid.

A young boy in Kentucky, the son of a disabled father, was one of eight children, with a family income of less than \$3,000 a year. He made failing grades in high school before Upward Bound gave him hope. In his senior year he raised his grades drastically—and now he is today a full-time college student.

Multiply these stories by the thousands, and then I think you will know why I am optimistic about America; why I cannot share the gloom of those who believe that our problems are too big to solve and our pocketbook is too small to help them.

I reject that notion, not because I am unaware of our problems, but because I know our power in America to hold to a good purpose. I know the power we have to reach a high goal.

History does not long remember the men who voted down the bond issues to build schools or to help little children.

The War on Poverty is going to succeed—if we just stay the course.

Our quest for educational excellence will succeed—if we only stay the course.

Our pursuit of 1,000 essential goals will succeed—if we only stay the course.

I believe that our children are going to remember that just as our country lived through a great age of exploration in the last century, we have entered in this century another age. It will be known and it will be remembered—I hope you are remembered with it—as the age of advancement, as the era of education.

This college is proof of that. The headlines may seldom tell the story—but history is going to tell it. It is not going to deal at length or too generously with those of little faith.

These years, like that earlier age of growth, are noisy today with the sound of controversy. But that must never daunt us—any more than it daunted our daddies who set-

tled here yesterday and built a new world, a Killeen, out of this wilderness.

So we come here today to dedicate this college—to dedicate it forever to the service of the people, and to the progress of America.

We have not just begun to fight. We have just begun to build. We are not going to build as fast as some would like, but we are not going to retreat.

With God's help and with your support, America is going to move forward to educate, to bring peace to the world, to keep aggression from enslaving us, to educate our children, to make our bodies healthier, to give us clean air to breathe, pure water to drink, wholesome meat to eat, and all of those things that make for greatness—a great people in a great society, in a great world.

Thank you.

NOTE: The President spoke at 11:08 a.m. at Central Texas College, Killeen, Texas. In his opening words he referred to Dr. Luis M. Morton, Jr., president of the college, Lt. Gen. G. R. Mather, Commander, III Army Corps and Fort Hood, Texas, Oveta Culp Hobby, former Secretary of Health, Education, and Welfare, William S. Bingham, president, board of trustees, Central Texas College, and Roy J. Smith, president, First National Bank of Killeen, and civilian aide to the Secretary of the Army.

During his remarks the President referred to, among others, his father, Sam Ealy Johnson, Jr., who served in the Texas State Legislature 1905-1909 and 1917-1925, and to Harry Province, editor in chief, Newspapers, Inc., Waco, Texas.

533 Remarks Following an Inspection of NASA's Michoud Assembly Facility Near New Orleans. December 12, 1967

Governor McKeithen, Mr. Mayor, Director Webb, Captain Schirra and Mr. Cunningham, Dr. von Braun, the able leaders of Chrysler and Boeing and the working people in this group, ladies and gentlemen:

Governor McKeithen and I had our hearts swell with pride as we rode through this great operation and saw the technical facili-

ties and development that you men and women have produced.

Senators Ellender, Long, and Hale Boggs—who gave my daughter a wedding party the other evening—Congressman Hébert, and others have insisted I come to Louisiana to see what you had here. But little did I realize how mammoth it was and how

much you have done and are doing.

Governor McKeithen, being a farm boy from out in the sticks, looked up to me and said, "Mr. President, this place would really hold a lot of hay, wouldn't it?"

I said, "Governor, I don't know how much hay it will hold. It has been a long time since I bought hay. But I do think it would have been big enough to invite all of my friends to the wedding." I don't think that we could buy them champagne if we got this many there. But it is big enough—as Louisiana is big enough to do whatever needs to be done.

It was 64 years ago this week that Bishop Wright of the United Brethren Church in Dayton, Ohio, received a telegram. And that telegram was from his two sons who were vacationing on the seashore.

That telegram began like this and I am going to quote just a little bit of it.

"Success four flights Thursday morning. All against 21-mile wind. Started from level with engine power alone. Average speed through air, 31 miles; longest, 57 seconds."

The next line said:

"Inform press."

The figures were a little off. The wind was 27 miles, not 21. The longest flight time was 59 seconds, not 57. But this was blamed on the telegraph operator—I have been blaming some other things on telegraph operators, Governor, lately. But this telegraph operator said he couldn't read Orville Wright's handwriting.

But the fact remains that these two young bicycle mechanics from Ohio had designed and had flown the first practical airplane ever to fly in the world. They had put wings on man, and that was—just think—only 64 years ago.

Standing here, in this great mammoth center, it is hard to believe that we have come so far and we have come so fast—from the Wright brothers on the sands of Jim Webb's

native North Carolina to this amazing space complex here in the freedom-loving State of Louisiana.

What a leap in less than one human lifetime. From a voyage of 125 feet to a trip to the moon. And we are still soaring. We have started a journey from which there can be and there will be no turning back.

We have come a long way—and much of that journey has been made in the last 10 years. Ten years ago, we could put scarcely 100 pounds into orbit about the earth. Today we can orbit 285,000 pounds. That is progress. That is something I am proud of and that is something you are proud of. That is something we are doing together.

In the 9 years since I first introduced in the United States Senate the Aeronautics and Space Act of 1958, we have seen the power of our rocket engines increase 50 times—from 150,000 to 7,500,000 pounds of thrust in the engines that you build here.

—We have satellites watching the world's weather.

—We have communications satellites linking all the continents into a community of nations.

—We have mapped the moon already.

—We have flown our astronauts in orbit for as long as 14 days. They have begun to learn how men can live and work in space.

—We have perfected our technology. Thirteen Saturn vehicles have been launched without a single failure. You hear about the bad things; now let's talk about the good things.

On behalf of this very proud Nation, and as your President, I have come here to say on behalf of the American people that we thank you good people of New Orleans and Louisiana for helping to bring these miracles about. We thank you for your skill, your loyalty, and your dedication to your country

that gives such blessings to all America.

But you have done more than pave man's road to the stars. Much of what you do stays here at home to enrich our lives, improve our economy, and add to our strength.

Your Apollo program will send men to the moon. And it will also help our industry, our universities, and our Nation to develop the knowledge that we need—that we are going to have to have—if we survive in the 20th century.

We are just beginning, really, to grasp the responsibilities and the opportunities of space. We are just beginning to realize its meaning for the needs here on earth.

I was talking to Governor McKeithen riding through a moment ago. We have invested some \$20 billion in the past 10 years. But the value to our Nation of this \$20 billion and this successful space program may be millions of times greater than the investment we made. Who knows now, when we have only lifted the first veil from the mysterious and from the miraculous?

But think of the cost to us if we were not in space—if we failed to support a program that is worthy of the wealthiest nation in history. What would that say about America's vested system of government? What would that say about our leadership in the world if we brought up the tail end?

Think of the cost to America, compounded again and again, if we had abandoned the determination to master technology—when it is so vital, not only to our prosperity but it is vital to our very national security.

It is because of you that we have not failed. It is because of you that the national effort that we launched in 1961—it is because of this investment and our foresight and sacrifices—that Americans can today watch the moon rise and the stars move through the heavens without great fear.

Not long ago we had to stand by and watch

other countries accomplish what we could not accomplish. I will never forget the days of Sputnik 1 and Sputnik 2, and the real concern. You talk about concerned people; they were some concerned during that period.

We were the most scientifically advanced nation on the face of the earth but we did not launch man's first earth satellite.

We were backward because we did not choose to adventure. We did not choose to have vision. We did not choose to look forward. Now let us remember that our future achievements—or our future failures—will depend on how far ahead we choose to look and how far ahead we choose to think.

If we think second, and if we look third, then we are going to wind up not being first.

I hope you hear me—that man will make space his domain is inevitable. Whether America will lead mankind to that destiny does not depend on your ability, but it depends on our vision, our willingness, and our national will and determination.

This great pilgrimage of man—like all his adventures—costs money. Christopher Columbus spent more years trying to find money for his voyage than he spent discovering the New World. In the modern world, we can no longer depend on a Queen Isabella pawning her jewels. We have to depend on taxes. We must have the revenues that only Congress can grant through taxes.

So we will advance in space to the extent that our people and their representatives are prepared for us to advance and are prepared to pay the cost of that advance. We may not always proceed at the pace we desire. I regret—I deeply regret—that there have been reductions and there will be more. There have been interruptions, and I hope that we have had all we can take. But I do have faith and confidence in the American people.

We are all the descendants of those voy-

agers who found and settled the New World.

We Americans are the first to really enter and the first to understand the 20th century.

Today we stand here at the gateway to another and a more glorious New World.

We will not surrender our station. We will not abandon our dream. We will never evacuate the frontiers of space to any other nation.

We just must be the space pioneers who lead the way to the stars.

To Captain Schirra and Mr. Cunningham, and their associates, particularly to Director Jim Webb and Dr. von Braun, and to all of you in the great State of Louisiana, who have worked your hearts out to make this a success, to the great managers of this operation, Governor McKeithen, I say on behalf of not just the State of Louisiana, but the States of this Nation, all 50 of them—we are very

proud of our space program.

We are very proud of our astronauts and the industrial genius that supports them. We are very proud of the good people of Louisiana for what they have built and for the record that they will establish.

Thank you very much.

NOTE: The President spoke at 2:55 p.m. at the Michoud Assembly Facility near New Orleans, a division of the George C. Marshall Space Flight Center at Huntsville, Ala. In his opening words he referred to John J. McKeithen, Governor of Louisiana, Victor H. Schiro, Mayor of New Orleans, James E. Webb, National Aeronautics and Space Administrator, Capt. Walter M. Schirra, Jr., and Walter Cunningham, designated Apollo astronauts, and Dr. Wernher von Braun, Director of the George C. Marshall Space Flight Center. Early in his remarks the President referred to Senator Allen J. Ellender, Senator Russell B. Long, Representative Hale Boggs, and Representative F. Edward Hébert, all of Louisiana.

534 Remarks to Delegates to the National Convention, AFL-CIO. December 12, 1967

Mr. Meany, convention members, the 174 guests of the AFL-CIO from foreign countries who have come here to express their interest and their leadership in the working people of the world, ladies and gentlemen:

Bal Harbour does not look like a battlefield. But it is, because you are here.

I don't know where a lot of people will be standing in the battle for freedom and progress that lies ahead in the years in the future, but I do know where American labor has stood in the past. I do know where American labor stands tonight. And it stands right in the first rank, unflinching and unafraid.

I believe that you will still be there when the summer soldiers have fled the field of challenge.

There was a time not long ago, when the American labor movement fought on a very

narrow front. The question then was one of sheer survival—keeping the trade union movement going in the face of bitter opposition.

Later you fought for a national minimum wage and maximum hours law—not just for the right to work but for the right to work in dignity, in decent conditions for a fair wage.

There are many men in this hall tonight, perhaps some 2,000 of you, who bear the honorable scars of that victory. Labor could have sat back then and said, "I am all right, Jack. I've got mine."

But you didn't. A few men of compassion and wisdom looked beyond the assembly line and beyond the craftsman's bench to see how their fellow Americans were faring. They knew that security and prosperity in

America to be meaningful and to be lasting must be shared by the greatest number of people.

They believed in the motto "The greatest good for the greatest number," and they still do.

Labor, they all knew, was part of America. Laboring men and women lived in American cities. Laboring men and women sent their children to American schools, and their parents to American hospitals. They breathed American air and drank American water, and vacationed in American parks and at America's seashores.

They knew whatever was right with America they enjoyed, and whatever was wrong with America they suffered.

So labor returned to the battlefield. You took up the fight for the kind of programs that would make this country better for your children than it had been for you.

And it had been pretty good for you.

You supported the kind of men, and you fought for the kind of candidates who proposed those programs—who vote for those programs in the Congress—who stand up to be counted whether the polls are high or whether the polls are low.

And your President knows what your fight has meant for America in my time.

I want you to listen to the rollcall of what we have done together.

Medicare—Already 4 million Americans have had their hospital bills paid, and more than 5 million have had Medicare pay their doctor bills.

Aid to Education—Already 9 million needy schoolchildren have been helped in the elementary and secondary schools, and nearly a million and a quarter college students, many of them the sons and the daughters of union families, now receive Federal help in education grants and loans that see

them through college.

The hope of every American parent, when that first babe is born is to hope the day will come when they can see them get a college education. And that day has come.

Minimum Wage Protection—We have brought over 9 million American workers under the minimum wage with the new minimum wage bill, and by next February we will have raised that minimum by 35 cents in our time. That is 10 cents more per hour than when I cast one of my first votes in Congress to make the minimum wage the law of the land 30 years ago, and guarantee them at least 25 cents an hour.

Poverty—More than 5½ million Americans have been lifted above the poverty line.

Employment—We have added 6 million workers to our labor force, and we have set a constant record of 81 long months of solid prosperity to break all the records in American history.

Civil Rights—We have cleared away the last big obstacles to the right of every American in this country to vote, to be judged for a job on his skill and not his skin, to enjoy public accommodations and facilities as a free man should in a free country.

Immigration—We have scrapped the old discrimination of the national origins system and we have replaced it with an American system of open American opportunity.

Conservation—We have added three-quarters of a million acres to our national seashores and parklands, more than ever before in our history and for the first time we are putting more back into the public domain than we are taking out.

The Cities—We finally have the program that we need to build model cities. Blight, decay, and despair can be banished from our life—but we are going to need the muscle—the great big strong muscle of the American

labor movement to turn our bold ideas into shining realities, and we are going to need all of you.

Pollution—For the first time we recommended and for the first time we passed the bills through the Congress, to give us the weapons to make an all-out attack on the filth that fouls our water and our air so our children can breathe clean air and drink clear, pure water.

Now for the consumer protection:

- We have ended the packaging tricks that once plagued the American housewife for so long.
- We have spared our children from dangerous and deadly toys.
- We have shut the door to unsafe products that make the home a boobytrap for the unwary.
- We have an Auto and Highway Safety Act to reduce the accidents that make our roads a death trap for the innocent, and particularly for the careless.
- We have moved against accidents in the doctor's office and the hospital by insisting that laboratories run the right tests, and they get them at the right time.
- We have acted against the moneylender who victimizes the poor and exploits the needy by concealing and hiding his interest charges.

This week, when I get back to Washington, I will sign the Flammable Fabrics Act that you helped me pass. It means that your family and your home will be safe from clothing and furnishings that blaze without warning.

- Next week we are going to sign in the White House the Wholesome Meat Act. It means that the meat on the family table will be pure, not rancid—that a mother can shop without fear of finding worms in a steak or a roast, or wood splinters in the baby's hamburger.

—In the weeks to come I hope also to sign the pipeline safety bill. It will guard us against a gas explosion ripping through a home, a school, or a crowded street.

Isn't this a remarkable and wonderfully hopeful record in itself? Yet these are only some of the many happy new triumphs we have won together for our American families.

The full record will show more consumer legislation enacted in the last 2 years than in all the 88 Congresses put together.

When the history of our time is written, it will testify that this administration, with your help, after 180 years, finally proclaimed into the law of the land a consumers bill of rights. And it is about time we did that, too.

And there is more—much more—that we have done together.

It wasn't easy. Every step of the way there were voices and there were votes that said:

- “No, no, not so fast.”
- “Don't try it, this hasn't been tried before.”
- “It's only a rehash of the New Deal.”
- Or “the New Frontier.”
- “It costs too much money.”
- “Don't you know there is a war on? We can't have both butter and guns, or guns and butter. You will have to stop progress here at home.”
- Or one side would cry, “It is all for labor or for the minorities,” and the other side cried, “It is all for the middle class.”

I have heard them all and we have answered them all.

Our answer is: “Yes, it is for labor. Yes, it is for the minorities. Yes, it is for the middle class. Yes, it is for the young, the old, the worker, the businessman, the farmer, the teacher, the student, the doctor, and the patient.”

“Yes,” we said, “for once you are going to be right. Our fight is not for a part of Amer-

ica. Our fight is for all of America."

But in the Congress some closed their ears and their ranks. In vote after vote the House Members of the other party lined up like wooden soldiers of the status quo.

—93 percent of the House Republicans voted to kill the Medicare bill.

—90 percent of them voted to kill the poverty bill.

—68 percent of them voted to kill our education bill.

—66 percent of them voted to kill our civil rights bill.

—80 percent of them voted to kill all the funds for model cities.

—93 percent of them voted to kill all funds for our housing and rent supplements.

—And, my friends, 72 percent of them voted to kill your minimum wage bill.

The only time they really said, "yes," an enthusiastic "yes," was when they could vote to recommit a good bill—to bury in a blanket of rhetoric beneath the wave of Republican reaction.

But they are not fooling anybody, are they?

The people know that the old Republican buggy can go only one way and that is backwards, downhill.

The only program that that Grand Old Party offers is the remains of what they backed into and what they have run over on the road, the bits and pieces of what somebody else has built.

No wonder we have worked so hard to pass the Highway Safety Act. That old Republican buggy has been colliding with us all year long.

And it is carrying more passengers this year. It is carrying more dead weight.

The 47 Democrats who helped us write the historic legislative record of the 89th Congress are gone. They have been replaced by

47 Republican nay-sayers. And America's advance has temporarily been slowed.

Not always; not by any means always. We have fought and we have won some funds for model cities, some funds for the Teacher Corps, and some funds for rent supplement.

We have continued our efforts for older Americans, mental health, and consumers. We have passed a good bill for the Vietnam veterans who are returning. We have passed a bill to control rats in our cities.

With your help we passed that rat bill because a Nation's conscience cried out louder than Republican laughter.

Don't let anyone fool you that we are standing still. This hasn't been the greatest Congress we ever had but this has been a productive Congress. And labor's leadership has helped make it productive.

But we need not just productive Congresses. We need great Congresses again, not just good ones. They must match and even surpass the 89th. And we are going to have to work.

We are going to have to roll up our sleeves and put our shoulder to the wheel—every man get to work and work through next November.

We still have to meet the great tests of our time—improving our educational and our medical systems, rebuilding our cities, providing jobs for all who can work, ending lawlessness in our streets and controlling our crime, and uniting our people in common and progressive purpose.

This is our national agenda and it can only succeed if there are men in Congress and men in the administration who will make it their personal agenda. We must work harder than ever to elect good men—to elect these men who will support these programs. It can be done. It will be done, because a nation depends on us not to fail, and not to fall back—but to go on fighting and go on

winning for all America.

As America depends on your social leadership, I say to labor, it also relies on your sense of economic responsibility.

In our system, the price changes are inevitable and they are desirable. But if we are to have the full blessings of free enterprise, business and labor must place the fundamental national interest first. Each must do its share and contribute its part to maintaining a stable level of overall prices.

I emphasized this to your partners in prosperity—the American businessmen—in Washington just last week. I told them that you—when I came to speak to you—would expect to receive equal time.

If industry, I said, if business, tried to raise prices and profit margins—even when they have excess capacity on their hands—we are bound to suffer rising prices, and this is simply murder—murder to all labor and to all people with low or moderate incomes.

If labor, I say, tried for a wage rise twice the nationwide increase in output per man-hour—even when there is no real labor shortage—we are bound to suffer rising prices.

Business suffers. Labor suffers. All America suffers from a wage-price spiral. And we want to avoid it if we can.

I told the businessmen that they should not point the finger of blame at you. I say that you should not point the finger of blame at them.

I say to both labor and to business that you are two fingers on one hand. It is your joint responsibility to try to stop the spiral.

To both of you, I say: It is your America. This is your land. This is your country. It is your prosperity. These are your jobs and your profits that we want to see protected. These are your dollars whose strength we want to maintain. I have urged business to refrain from avoidable price increases and

to intensify its competitive efforts in the world.

I tonight urge labor to look at its responsibilities—to look hard and deep into its wise heart and restrain its demands for excessive wage increases.

Look around you as you calculate. Here is your country, fighting gallantly again for freedom—but doing it for the first time in American history without any wage or without any price controls.

It is that voluntary restraint that has made involuntary curbs unnecessary. Your Government wants to keep it that way. We want to be partners in responsibility and prosperity with labor and with business.

And we will, if each of us does his share for the good of all. And I think you want to do that. I think all America wants to do that.

I cannot close without sharing a few thoughts with you on a matter that I think troubles all of our hearts—that is the tragic but the vital struggle in Vietnam that is going on there tonight.

You have long stood in the front ranks of this fight for freedom. But here in Florida this winter you have added bright new testimony to your resolve—and you have given new heart to all who stand with you in search for peace.

I am very proud and I am very grateful, Mr. Meany, for the resolution that you all have passed here in support of freedom's cause. It is a ringing declaration of your firm resistance to aggression. That staunch spirit is constantly personified by that great, courageous leader—"Mr. Labor"—George Meany. I thank him and I thank all of you—from the bottom of my heart.

I thank you, too, for another man.

He does not live in the White House. He does not guide the destiny of the Nation,

and he doesn't have the responsibilities throughout the world on his shoulders alone. But he is face down tonight in the mud of the DMZ. Or he is out there storming a hill near Danang. Or he is crouched in a rice paddy in the Mekong Delta.

The American soldier, too, thanks you from the bottom of his heart. He knows, even if some others don't, that your expressions of support are not just so many flag-waving words.

Whoever thinks that has never heard the question that comes to me so often from the foxholes in my letters every day. He has never felt the ache of a soldier who writes his Commander in Chief and asks him, and this comes in letter after letter: "We are doing okay—but are the folks back home really behind us?"

American labor has answered that question with a resounding "Yes," and a firm "Yes." You have said it before and you have repeated it here—so strongly that even Hanoi cannot mistake its meaning or misinterpret what it says.

I know that many of labor's sons have left their parents and have left their homes to risk their lives for liberty and freedom in Vietnam. I know that is torture for you, as it is for me. I know that you regret every single dollar that we spend on war—dollars that we want to spend on the works of peace here at home.

But you and I know that we must persevere. The torture we feel cannot beg the truth. It is only our unswerving will. It is only our unshakeable determination that can ever bring us peace in the world.

Oh, it is very easy to agonize over the television or to moralize or to pin your heart on your sleeve or a placard on your back—and think to yourself that you are helping somebody stop a war.

But I only wish that those who bewail war would bring me just one workable solution to end the war.

The peacemakers are out there in the field. The soldier and the statesman need and welcome the sincere and the responsible assistance of concerned Americans. But they need reason much more than they need emotion. They must have a practical solution and not a concoction of wishful thinking and false hopes—however well intentioned and well meaning they may be.

—It must be a solution that does not call for surrender or for cutting and running now. Those fantasies hold the nightmare of world war III and a much larger war tomorrow.

—It must be a solution that does not call for stepping up our military efforts to a flashpoint where we risk a much larger war today.

The easiest thing in the world for the President to do is to get in a larger war. It is very difficult to continue day after day to pressure the enemy without involving yourself in additional problems.

I, for one, would be glad and grateful for any help that any citizen can give me. Thousands of our soldiers' sons would also thank anyone who has a plan or a program or a solution. I cannot help but feel that we would be joined in our gratitude and our gladness by all of our allies and by millions of thoughtful Americans. They are really the concerned Americans who recognize the responsibilities that accompany their rights and the duties that accompany their freedom and their liberty; and who see it as a duty of citizenship to try to be constructive in word and constructive in deed.

For as long as I have borne the responsibility of conducting our foreign policy, I have known what I want you to know: I

want all America to know that it is easier to protest a policy than to conceive one.

And so your President has followed a rather simple practice:

- If someone has a plan, I listen to it.
- If it seems worth pursuing, I ask the best Americans I can find to give me their judgment on it. I have asked your president many times for his judgment on these matters.
- If we like it and it seems wise to the President, then I try to put it into operation.

I can promise all who shout their opposition, as well as any who have quieter doubts—and no political aspirations—that I will continue this practice. I will always be ready and anxious to hear and to act on any constructive proposal they offer.

But in the meantime, I want you to know, and I want all America to know, that I am not going to be deterred. I am not going to be influenced. I am not going to be inflamed by a bunch of political, selfish men who want to advance their own interests. I am going to continue down the center of the road, doing my duty as I see it for the best of all my country, regardless of my polls or regardless of the election.

- I will devote my days and my nights to supporting and to supplying half a million of the bravest men who ever wore the American uniform and who ever left these shores to fight to protect us.
- I will honor and respect our sworn commitments to protect the security of Southeast Asia, because in protecting their security I protect your security, your home, and your family, too. We will not now betray the troubled leaders and the hopeful people of that region who have relied on Uncle Sam's word

to shield them from aggression—not after other Presidents who preceded me gave their solemn word. I am going to see that that word is carried out.

- We will hold the line against aggression as it has been drawn so often by the Congress and by the President. We will not now nullify the word of the Congress or the people, as expressed in the SEATO Treaty, that we would come and take our stand in the face of common danger—that treaty was ratified by a vote in the Senate of 82 to 1—or the Tonkin Gulf Resolution, where there were only two votes against it, when they said they would support the President in whatever means it was necessary to take to deter aggression. I call on all of them to support him now.
- At all times and in all ways and with all patience and all hope—your President and your country will strive for peace.

Let no man, friend or foe, American or Asian, mistake our meaning.

I remind all of you again tonight, and my fellow Americans who may be viewing this proceeding, of our exchange of correspondence with Ho Chi Minh. The North Vietnamese themselves released my letter on March 21st. In it, the President of the United States, on behalf of the United States, made what we thought was a fair and a firm offer.

I said: "There is one good way to overcome this problem and move forward in the search for a peaceful settlement. That is for us to arrange for direct talks between trusted representatives in a secure setting and away from the glare of publicity. . . .

"As to the site of the bilateral discussions I propose, there are several possibilities. We could, for example, have our representatives

meet in Moscow, where contacts have already occurred. They could meet in some other country such as Burma. You may have other sites in mind, and I would try to meet your suggestions. . . ."

Can we be any more specific? Hanoi has spurned that olive branch. They answered with a rude "No," and they have repeated it time after disappointing time. Until they relent, until they see room for compromise and area for agreement, we must stand firm and we must stand unafraid. And we will.

Peace will come—I am convinced of that. But until peace does come, I will continue, with the support of our loyal, determined people, to hold the line that we have drawn against aggression—and to hold it firm and

to hold it steady.

In all that I do, I will be strengthened by the powerful testimony for freedom that you sons of labor have given here in this hall. You courageous men of labor have supported our fighting men every time they needed you. You have spoken as free men under fire must speak. Now, may all the world hear you. And may God bless you for what you have said and what you have done. May God keep those men until we can bring them back home in honor and in victory.

Thank you very much.

NOTE: The President spoke at 7:03 p.m. at the Americana Hotel in Bal Harbour, Fla. In his opening words he referred to George Meany, president of the AFL-CIO. The address was broadcast nationally.

535 Statement by the President Upon Signing Bill Naming a Federal Office Building in Detroit in Memory of Senator Patrick V. McNamara. *December 12, 1967*

I AM GLAD to be among Pat McNamara's friends as I sign this bill giving his name to the new Federal Office Building in Detroit.

I don't know just what Federal programs will be administered from that building, when it is completed. But if those programs have to do with the economic security of our people—or the education of our young—or better lives for older Americans, they will be housed in the right place.

Pat McNamara worked and fought for the \$1.60 minimum wage. He was one of the earliest and strongest advocates of Federal aid to education. He sponsored the bill that created the Administration on Aging.

This man embodied the best of the American labor movement. He knew what it was to work with his hands. He was a veteran in the fight for decent working conditions and

adequate compensation. But he wasn't satisfied just to work for his brothers in organized labor. He knew that all America had to grow and improve if union families were to have a good life in our land. So he carried his concern into politics—into the United States Senate—and put his ideas about social justice into law and practice.

It is right that the new Federal Office Building in Detroit—where the people's programs will be administered for the people—should bear his name. May every man and woman who works there live up to his standard of public service.

NOTE: As enacted, the bill (S. 343) is Public Law 90-186 (81 Stat. 566).

Patrick V. McNamara served as Senator from Michigan from January 3, 1955, until his death on April 30, 1966.

The statement was released at Bal Harbour, Fla.

536 Remarks by the President at a Press Briefing by Col. Daniel James, Jr., USAF, Following His Report on Vietnam.

December 13, 1967

COLONEL JAMES had in excess of 100 missions in Korea. He is a fighter pilot who has had almost the equivalent of that in Southeast Asia. He has had some 78 or 79 missions over North Vietnam.

I talked to him about a good many things, specifically the air campaign there; what they are doing; the morale of our troops, particularly of our pilots; our equipment; the quality of the opposition and the problems he faces; the progress that the services have made; advancing people on their merit without regard to color; the work that he has done with the people of Thailand and how they got along with them.

Colonel James' name is Colonel Daniel James, Jr., and his nickname is "Chappy." He has reported into Washington before he picks up his family in Arizona. He met with Senator Hayden briefly earlier.

He has been vice commander of the 8th Tactical Fighter Wing in Thailand. You will remember his commander was in a short time ago, Colonel Robin Olds—his wing commander.

In many of these combat missions, Colonel James, because of his experience and his ability, was the strike leader.

He has three children. His son is going to be a fighter pilot. He is at the University of Arizona now and is planning to go to another school. His daughter was a stewardess for TWA.

I think I have covered generally what we talked about. I will leave and take another appointment which I have. If you have any questions of Colonel James, I guess if he can take care of the North Vietnamese he can take care of you. I don't know.

This is Colonel James U. Cross, my Armed Forces Aide and this is Major Robinson. But he tells me he is Lieutenant Colonel as of this morning. He is Army Assistant to the Armed Forces Aide to the President.

NOTE: The President introduced Colonel James at 12:55 p.m. in the Cabinet Room at the White House. The full text of the news briefing is printed in the Weekly Compilation of Presidential Documents (vol. 3, p. 1705).

As printed above, this item follows the text released by the White House Press Office.

537 Remarks Upon Signing Bill Amending the Federal Credit Union Act. *December 13, 1967*

Members of the Congress, ladies and gentlemen:

We have come here this afternoon to strengthen the Federal credit unions—some of the little-known building blocks of democracy.

The credit union story tells of do-it-yourself progress, of thrift, and of voluntary cooperation that is put to work for the good of America.

Half of the Nation's 23,000 credit unions are chartered and supervised by the Federal Government—the other half are supervised by the States.

But the members—and no one else—own and operate these credit unions.

In plants, in offices, in fraternal organizations, and military bases, wherever Americans have a bond of association or occupation, credit unions serve them. Credit unions have

only one purpose: to help their members save and to help their members borrow money at minimum cost.

The credit union is another instrument of consumer protection.

—It helps the elderly guard their precious retirement incomes.

—It helps the serviceman and the worker escape the loan shark.

—It helps the poor, who too often must pay the most for the credit they get.

President Franklin Roosevelt knew the value of these peoples' institutions when he signed the first Federal Credit Union Act of 1934.

The bill that I sign today, we think, strengthens our Federal credit unions. It allows them to:

—Lend money more easily.

—Pay dividends twice as often, and

—It allows them to pay dividends for a whole month on deposits received during the first 10 days of the month.

A credit union can be another weapon in the war on poverty.

For example: A year ago a Federal credit union was set up on Leech Lake Indian Reservation in Minnesota.

One of its 6 members is a World War II veteran. He lost his wife in an accident. He is now trying to raise six children by himself. But in a year he had been able to save \$300. He has enrolled his children in the credit

union because he has already learned the benefits of thrift.

This man is going to try to break the chains of poverty that bind him. He has made a move toward self-sufficiency, toward self-respect, toward personal dignity. He has become a leader in his community. He has changed his way of life.

That is just one case that we can cite today. But multiply Leech Lake by the other 23,000 credit unions. Multiply this one man by the other 19 million members. Multiply his \$300 until you reach the total assets of credit unions: \$12.5 billion.

So the product is the story of our credit unions—a story that I think every American can be proud of. For credit unions are making us a stronger nation in 19 million ways every day. These savings are a foundation of America's bright future.

We are so pleased that the Members of Congress, who have provided the leadership—Senator Sparkman, Congressman Patman, and the minority members on their committees—have brought us this legislation.

It gives me great satisfaction to be here this afternoon and to approve it.

NOTE: The President spoke at 5:20 p.m. in the Cabinet Room at the White House. At the close of his remarks he referred to Senator John Sparkman of Alabama and Representative Wright Patman of Texas, Chairmen of the Banking and Currency Committees of the Senate and House of Representatives.

As enacted, the bill (S. 1085) is Public Law 90-188 (81 Stat. 567).

538 Remarks at the Presentation of the Papers of President Andrew Johnson. *December 14, 1967*

Dr. Holt, Dr. Graf, Mr. Smith, Mr. Iglehart, ladies and gentlemen:

It is difficult to reach a clear judgment of the presidency of Andrew Johnson. Scholars are still fighting out some of the issues.

He was unexpectedly thrown into the fear-

ful whirlpool of postwar Civil War politics. A war Democrat, rather than a Republican, he had no natural relationship with the Republicans, who dominated the Congress.

He was a man of deep conviction. He was sometimes blinded by his passion into taking

an unwise and unnecessary course for the dominant political realities of that time.

But we are interested in men as human beings. There can be little argument about his greatness. A critical historian once wrote: "He was born in the midst of degrading influences. He was brought up in the misery of the poor white class. He had no chance for breeding and none for book education; none for that half-conscious betterment which comes from association with cultivated and morally excellent people."

As if to answer this, Andrew Johnson, who spent his childhood as a tailor's apprentice, as you have just observed, proudly told his fellow Congressmen once: "If being poor was a crime, I should have to plead that I was guilty. Yes, I have wrestled with poverty, that gaunt and that haggard monster, and I have met it in the day and the night."

That is one of the principal problems that faces us today. We have come a long way in 100 years, but we are still wrestling with that gaunt and that haggard monster known as poverty.

Today I spent a large part of my morning trying to get adequate funds to face that problem. I hope the Congress will be cooperative in that respect later in the day.

But Johnson, by his courage, mastered poverty and illiteracy. He started out to build a political career. By the time he was 27, he had been elected to public office seven times. At age 38, he went to Washington as a Member of the House of Representatives. Ten years later, he was Governor of Tennessee.

Two episodes, I think, can best highlight Johnson's courage. You may have some better stories than these little ones, in this book. I will look forward with interest to perusing it.

In 1855, the Know-Nothings, those violent advocates of anti-Catholic prejudice, put up a candidate against the then Governor John-

son. It was a very savage campaign. Governor Johnson was told that if he came to a meeting, he would be killed. He went. He walked to the podium and he put a cocked pistol on it.

He observed: "My fellow citizens, it is proper when free men assemble for the discussion of important public interests that everything should be done decently and done in order. I have been informed that part of the business to be transacted is my assassination, and I beg respectfully to propose that this be the first business in order. If any man has come here for that purpose, then let him shoot."

After a minute or two of silence, Johnson turned to his speech, then, with this observation: "It appears that I have been misinformed."

It seems as if he had been reading Mark Twain, doesn't it?

"I will now proceed to address you on the subject which has called us together."

And he was reelected.

The second example which displayed a different sort of courage took place in the Senate Chamber in the winter of 1860 and the spring of 1861.

As the drums of disunion began to beat and the Southern States began to follow South Carolina into secession, one Senator from below the Mason-Dixon line kept faith with the Constitution and kept faith with the heritage of Andrew Jackson, and that Senator was the Senator from Tennessee, Senator Andrew Johnson.

Senator Jefferson Davis accused him of being an abolitionist turncoat. But Johnson went to the basic level of American politics when he said: "If you are for preserving this Union, in its great and its fundamental principles, then I am your ally. If I could not unsheathe my sword in vindication of the flag of my country, then I would return the

sword to its scabbard. I would never sheathe it in the bosom of my mother. Never! Never! Never!"

A month later he put it a little bit differently in a phrase that has sounded down through the years, and I know many of you recall it. "I trust in God that the old flag of the Union will never be struck."

So it is, President Holt, a very great pleasure for me this morning to accept these papers of Andrew Johnson. I think we will all take heart from the courage this man displayed, the accomplishments of this distinguished and authentic son of the Tennessee frontier.

Courage is synonymous with Tennessee. Many people in my State reverently believe, and I think can prove it, that there never would have been a Texas except for Tennessee.

The love of freedom and the courage to defend it have been born into the bosom of all the children who come into existence in that State. It is not only born into them; it is kept there until they are laid to rest.

So we welcome very much the thoughtfulness and the generosity of the educational people of your State in making it possible for those who want the truth and who want to review the progress of this Nation in some of its most critical periods to see the works that you have prepared here.

The Cabinet has grown some since John-

son's day—practically doubled—but the Cabinet Room where he met with his Cabinet sometimes is now used for various purposes—primarily we call it the Treaty Room, where we reach agreements with other nations and confirm that by our signatures.

I think that Luci may have used it for other purposes on occasions all the way from sparking to studying a very difficult mathematics course she had. But we never go in here without remembering that this is where Johnson first met with his Cabinet and we see the chairs that they sat in.

We thank you for coming here this morning. We ask you to express our gratitude to the people of your State, who are led by that noble, worthy, courageous Governor. We hope to be worthy of your thoughtfulness and your confidence.

Thank you very much.

NOTE: The President spoke at 11:25 a.m. in the Cabinet Room at the White House. In his opening words he referred to Dr. Andrew D. Holt, president of the University of Tennessee, who made the presentation, Dr. LeRoy P. Graf, editor with Dr. Ralph W. Haskins of the Andrew Johnson papers, Dr. Sam B. Smith, chairman of the Tennessee Historical Commission, and Lewis Iglehart, director of the University of Tennessee Press, publishers of the papers.

The volume presented to the President includes the Andrew Johnson papers up to 1851, 2 years prior to his first term as Governor of Tennessee, and is the first of a planned 10-volume series to be sponsored by the National Historical Publications Commission, the University of Tennessee, and the Tennessee Historical Commission.

539 Remarks Upon Signing Bill Amending the Flammable Fabrics Act. December 14, 1967

Secretary Gardner, Secretary Trowbridge, Secretary Cohen, Senator Magnuson, Chairman Staggers, Members of the Congress, ladies and gentlemen:

About a year ago, an 11-year-old little girl struck a match—for no reason at all—just

the way children often do.

That match fell onto her cotton blouse. That blouse burst into flames. The child tried to beat out the fire herself. Then she panicked and began running. That just fanned the flames.

Her mother chased after her and wrapped her in a towel. But the blouse still continued to burn. Finally, she pushed the little girl into a shower to douse the flames.

The girl subsequently spent more than 9 weeks in the hospital—6 of them in the care of plastic surgeons.

The doctors used every miracle of medicine that they could conceive of. Still, that little girl has remained scarred.

But the burns were not the only price that she paid. Her mind was scarred, too. Now she is under a psychiatrist's care.

Later, her father had the remains of the blouse tested. Surely, he thought, the law of the land, and the legislators, and the President should see that we have laws to protect our little children from themselves and from causes like this.

But he found that the fabric in that blouse had met all the standards under that law. That law was the Flammable Fabrics Act that had been passed 14 years ago.

But that law 14 years ago was not sufficient today. That law has failed us and failed that little girl. She was the victim of a very terrible blow of fate. She was the victim of a very insufficient law.

Our 200 million people are victims in many fields today.

But I don't think her case is unique:

—More than 3,000 other Americans die each year just because their clothing catches fire.

—Tens of thousands still spend painful weeks in the hospital. They are badly burned by fabrics that become deadly torches.

I am very concerned—I am not a concerned Democrat but a concerned American—but I am very concerned with the figures we see appearing on the horizon. It looks like our infant death rate is going

down and down. It looks like, perhaps, maybe—I don't want my credibility brought into question—I just can't be positive but it looks like, perhaps, maybe that is because of some of the legislation that you men and women in the Congress and in the Cabinet have sponsored to provide health programs for our newborn children.

It looks like our death rate for adults is going down. We cannot tell. All the figures for the year are not in.

But it looks like a rather sizable decline in our death rate. That could be because Harry Truman back many years ago had the courage, when they called him every name except a good milk cow, to propose some health measures that we got around to 20 years later—and to do something about it.

It may be that an old person lives longer today because they have hospital treatment. Some 4 million did under Medicare this year.

Some 5 million had their doctors' bills paid.

I had a young lady who works here in the White House, a reporter—and she had her mother with an incurable disease. I could see it taking its part from her.

I wrote her a little note and said, "I am thinking of you. I am praying for you. And I know there is nothing we can do about it—not now. Some day we are going to find a cure for this. But we are thinking of you."

She wrote me back and said, "I think there is one thing you ought to know. You have already thought of me—you and the Congress and the people—because I have got lots of things to worry about.

"But one thing I am not worrying about is who is paying the doctor bills. I am not worrying about who is going to pay the hospital bill because the Congress has provided Medicare.

"I have been putting in through the

months—and that has taken care of it. That is one burden I don't have to bear."

So that is something I think—occasionally I make references, as you may have observed, to people who vote against some bills that I think are good bills. They can have equal time for this, if they want to.

I don't ever want to get personal. I don't want to get into name-calling contests. I don't want to say any ugly things about individuals. But I do about policies, about programs, and about bills.

I also say very much to the irritation of some of the members of my party. I say good things about the members of the other party—when there are good things to say. We frequently have that opportunity.

This is an instance this morning because there are a great many things—practically everything that Congress really does has help from both sides to some degree.

So today, we have come here, and we are going to strengthen the law that 14 years have proven is inadequate. In this new Flammable Fabrics Act, we are going to give renewed shields against anguish and against agony.

This is what this bill does:

—It says to Mr. Trowbridge that he will be able to—I hope very promptly—set modern and effective safety standards. He will not need an act of Congress every time a new standard is needed for some fabric used in a blouse, or in a sweater, or in a child's cowboy or Indian suit. I have asked the Secretary to put his experts to work yesterday in setting these standards in anticipation of signing the law today.

—The law's coverage of clothing is strengthened and is broadened considerably. For the first time, fabrics used in blankets, rugs, drapes, and upholstery

will come under the law's protection.

So will hats, gloves, and shoes.

—This bill will better protect us all from imported fabrics which do not meet American safety standards.

—It will give us new power to discover how and why these fabrics burn—how they can be made less flammable.

This law does not blacklist anyone. It won't put any reputable firm out of business. It will protect the honest manufacturer. But it will protect him from unscrupulous manufacturers and unscrupulous competition.

Above all, it does the one thing that ought to be the test of every law: It protects the American people.

Our 1967 countdown for consumers is underway.

A man was asking me last night about my grandfather and my father—and their political lives—and was saying, "Would you please point to certain things that you recall and that impressed you which you would like to have attached to their names?"

I tried to review some of the measures: the Blue Sky law my father had introduced, and the act to save the Alamo from being torn down—and some of the little things he told me as a boy.

Some day you folks are going to be old enough to be grandfathers, too. They are going to be asking you—your grandchildren, about "What did your grandfather do that you would like to have him remembered by?"

I can think of nothing that would give them greater pride than to save a little child from a burning blouse, or to save a widowed mother from paying 40 percent interest without knowing it, or from saving some housewife from buying meat with worms in it.

Those are the things that don't cost a lot of money—these consumer things.

Betty Furness' program gives you more for less expenditure than nearly anything I know of.

I am telling you, you had better get with it because the women in this country are going to insist on it. They are tired of eating diseased meat and seeing their babies burned up in blouses, and having pipelines break under their houses, in their streets, and across the country—when it can all be curbed, at least, if not completely avoided.

Our 1967 proposal, I believe, contained 12 consumer bills.

You hear a lot being said about the Congress. Some of our enemies—and this includes men in both parties—we don't want to get partisan—[*laughter*—say it is a very bad Congress. Well, if they want to better it, they can pass some of these 12 bills that are up there.

We started with No. 12. That was the program for the year. I checked off No. 12 three weeks ago. I signed the product safety bill.

Then I checked off No. 11 last week. That was the clinical laboratories bill—part of the Partnership for Health Amendments.

Today, we are going to check off No. 10. That is the Flammable Fabrics Act.

Tomorrow, we are going to check off No. 9. That is the Wholesome Meat Act.

I am not saying anything about the rat bill. That has already been taken care of.

That still leaves us No. 8—a truth-in-lending bill. That has passed the Senate. That has passed certain steps in the House. We hope we can get it as soon as possible.

There is the gas pipeline safety bill that has passed the Senate and is pending in the House.

That gets us down to half a dozen or less. That is almost half—that is half, isn't it? A

half a dozen is half of a dozen! [*Laughter*]

But we just have half of the session—half of the Congress. This is just one session.

We hope the next session—elected next year—can get those others passed.

Our society is more prosperous and it is more complex than any the world has ever known. It has not altogether eliminated some of these avoidable dangers.

There are still some petty deceits that people normally practice in their trade. But it is up to good government—and it is up to our good common sense—to say that we must make every effort that we can that is legitimate to protect ourselves from these dangers and to protect ourselves from these deceits.

So this morning, I would like to say to the American people that we have much left to do. We haven't got all of these problems met by a long shot. But we are making progress.

Twelve, eleven, ten, nine, eight, and we will be down to six—and that is six more than we have ever acted on heretofore.

This is a good service. This helps to make this a good Congress. This shows, I think, that they are good men—in both good parties.

Thank you very much.

NOTE: The President spoke at 11:43 a.m. in the East Room at the White House. In his opening words he referred to Secretary of Health, Education, and Welfare John W. Gardner, Secretary of Commerce Alexander B. Trowbridge, Under Secretary of Health, Education, and Welfare Wilbur J. Cohen, Senator Warren G. Magnuson of Washington, and Representative Harley O. Staggers of West Virginia, Chairman of the Interstate and Foreign Commerce Committee of the House.

As enacted, the bill (S. 1003) is Public Law 90-189 (81 Stat. 568).

For remarks following the signing of other consumer bills referred to by the President, see Items 499, 520, 541. See also note to Item 575.

540 Remarks at the Smithsonian Institution at a Ceremony
Marking the 200th Anniversary of the Encyclopaedia
Britannica. December 14, 1967

Dr. Ripley, Senator Benton, Members of Congress, ladies and gentlemen:

Senator Benton did say to me coming up here that he wished that I would give him what information I had on politics. I don't know how a man could be very learned in that field and have such a poor poll unless there is something wrong with politics or polls. But I may need to know something about business. It depends on your frame of mind.

I agreed with Senator Benton that I would tell him what little I knew about politics if he would tell me all he knew about business.

The first thing he did was get up here and make a prediction. I thought he was bragging for a moment about how long he had been connected with the Encyclopaedia Britannica until I found out he was predicting what a short time I would be President.

Let's just leave it this way: He is better at explaining things than he is at prophesying.

I would like to quote—and, Senator Benton, if it pleases you, sir—to disagree with something I read in the Encyclopaedia Britannica. I am a concerned Democrat who is exercising my free right of free speech and my right to dissent. [*Laughter.*]

What I read that I disagreed with in the Encyclopaedia Britannica concerned education. This is what it said:

"Education (consists of) instructing children . . . in such branches of knowledge and polite exercises as are suitable to their genius and station."

That statement appeared in the Britannica, "suitable to their genius and station." It appeared in the first edition of the Britan-

nica 200 years ago. That shows what has happened in 200 years, doesn't it?

I don't believe it. Neither does today's Encyclopaedia Britannica.

For this gift to 1,000 schools that you have talked about underscores the idea that in America education must be concerned not with the station of our young people—not with their station—but with their ability.

By this very generous and farsighted act of yours, placing these Presidential reference libraries in these poor schools attended by our poor children, Senator Benton, you and your organization are helping to give these people power—power to rise above the arbitrary "station" they were born to.

Nothing gives me greater satisfaction than the fact that the old ideas of station and the old ideas of privilege are withering away and are dying on the vine. I think that is especially true in education. Nothing makes me happier than to know that I have had a little part in it in the past 4 years, in creating the conditions that will one day—that will one day—give every child as much education as he or she can take.

I am going to talk to you about what we have done here in a moment. Before you get too tired, I am going to break the bad news to you first. I am going to tell you what we haven't done, and I think it is an international disgrace—that there are human beings walking around on two legs in this day and age who would permit a condition like this to continue—where four people out of every ten can't read "dog," can't spell "cat," and can't write "mama."

That is the kind of civilization we are

leading. Some people are satisfied with it. Some people are content with it. Some people apparently are willing to let us stay that way for fear we are going too far too fast.

I don't feel that way about it. I am happy that we are doing something, not only to let people out of poverty, but something to let every boy and girl have all the education that he or she can take.

The day before yesterday, I went to a little town near my home where we had a junior college just established. We had a program—the Higher Education Act of 1965. Under title V, you could build libraries. The Federal Government put in 50 percent and the local people voted a bond issue and put in 50 percent.

Anyway, we planned for a junior college so boys and girls could stay with mama and papa and live at home—eat mother's cooking, without having to go to a dormitory that they couldn't afford—and go to a junior college, and get 2 years of college.

In 1900 we had eight junior colleges in this country. When I became President we had 600-plus junior colleges in this country. Today we have 900 junior colleges. In 3 years we have added 300 junior colleges—from one to two opening every week.

We took a poll. It wasn't a Lou Harris poll or a Gallup poll. They get awfully busy working for other people this season of the year.

But we took a poll. There were 150 students who were eligible for that junior college. The people voted a bond issue. We built the junior college. We opened it the day before yesterday. I went by there to pay my respects and take a look at it.

I said, "Where are your 150?" They said, "They are out there with 1,850 more. We have an enrollment of 2,000, eager, yearning, seeking knowledge." This is the first time they had the facilities, equipment and staff,

and so forth, to give it to them.

I am glad that Senator Benton and his vision and his generosity are going to make available the Encyclopaedia Britannica. I hope it is not one 200 years old, because that school is Cotulla—Cotulla. It is a Latin-American school. You probably have the Latin pronunciation.

But we didn't have an Encyclopaedia Britannica then. We didn't deal with this business of "station." Johnson City doesn't have an Encyclopaedia Britannica either, or didn't have when I went to school there some years ago.

I am glad you are recognizing those two.

But what makes me prouder than ever, Senator, is that for many years you have been in the forefront of a movement in this country to get the Federal Government deeply concerned about giving every boy and girl all the education that he or she can take.

When you take that slogan, or that motto, or that objective, I think that is a rather remarkable development. There has never been anything like it in the history of the world. The horizon of opportunity has been broadened for millions of children—young children.

Do you know what we are doing for education in this country and what we have done in the last 3 years, too? Because the Federal aid to education was a very dirty word in all of my campaigns for 24 years—12 years in the House and 12 years in the Senate.

But we are giving them education in Head Start at 4 years old. You move down the street two blocks and we are teaching them to read and write at 74 years old.

Aren't you proud of that kind of a program?

In 3 years the number of children from 3 years old to 4 years old in nursery schools in the United States—children 3 to 4 in nursery schools in the United States—has jumped 29

percent—in 3 years.

The dropout rate is down by more than a fifth in 5 years.

There were 4.3 million students in college in 1963, when I took the oath of office. Today there are 6 million—not 4 million—6.1 million in college 3 years later. We haven't got this year's gain—4 to 6 to 7, whatever it is.

The Federal Government has had a very major role in education. That may be one of the big reasons for our deficit. We don't like deficits. We don't want deficits. We are going to try to do something about deficits. But the big deficits we have had in this country have been in the deficits in education, and the deficit in health. We are doing something about those deficits, too.

In the last 3 years our educational spending: when I became President it was \$4 billion a year—today it is \$12 billion a year. In 3 years, up 3 times.

Our spending for university research has gone up 61 percent in the last 5 years—and is now bearing the sort of fruit that you are going to be reading about tomorrow morning.

What are you going to read about tomorrow morning? It is going to be one of the most important stories that you ever read, your daddy ever read, or your grandpappy ever read.

At this very moment, the biochemists at Stanford University are announcing a very spectacular breakthrough in human knowledge. They have for the first time finally succeeded in manufacturing a synthetic molecule that displays the full biological activity of a natural molecule in a living organism.

In the words of this Nobel Peace Prize winner, and others associated with him, they have come "the closest yet to creating life in the laboratory" by manufacturing "the living genetic material of a virus." When this manmade viral material infected bacteria, it

began to reproduce itself.

Think about the state ordaining life. This is going to be one of the great problems—one of the big decisions. If you think about some of these decisions the present President is making—it is going to be a kindergarten class compared to the decisions some future President is going to have to make.

These men have unlocked a fundamental secret of life. It is an awesome accomplishment. It opens a wide door to new discoveries in fighting disease, in building much healthier lives for all human beings. It could be the first step—these great laboratory geniuses say—toward the future control of certain types of cancer.

The work of these scientists, headed by Dr. Arthur Kornberg, is living proof of the creative partnership which has developed over the years between science, between the universities, and their Government. If you want to say "Federal", then "Federal Government."

We are quite proud that their explorations have been made possible by public grants from the Federal Government's National Institutes of Health and their National Science Foundation.

We are quite proud that there has been a substantial drop, as a result of our program for children—our appropriations in behalf of medicine for children—in the infant death rate.

There has been a substantial drop—we hope it continues as it shows now—in our death rate. How much that is connected with the fact that all of our people over 65 have a chance to have Medicare and hospitals, have a chance to have their doctor bills paid, have a chance to go to a nursing home, have a chance for your mothers, fathers, grandmothers, and grandfathers to be taken care of—how much that is having to do with the declining death rate is a matter of conjecture.

We can't prove that. I don't want to get my credibility involved any more, because I have all the election year problems I can deal with now.

But I want to ask you, when you read about what they are doing here at Stanford, when you read about what they are doing out here at NIH, when you read what they are doing in Head Start, when you read about what they are doing with 74-year-old men and women learning to read and write, and when you read about cutting that infant death rate, you read about reducing that total death rate in the country, and you read about pulling people up above the poverty level by the millions for the first time—is there any satisfaction in the world that can really be greater than bettering humankind by educating the mind and building and preserving the body?

I was thanking Senator Benton for some more of his generosity. He came to see Mrs. Johnson the other day. He had admired some paintings in Senator Lehman's office many years ago. And he went down to the art gallery when he got enough money to pay for them and bought some himself. He saved them through the years and treasured them very much.

He saw Mrs. Johnson and said, "I want to give this to my country. I want to give it to the White House." That beautiful painting is there in the White House where it is admired every day by thousands of Americans who come and go from that house—that first house of the land.

But what Senator Benton and his people are doing here today is going to live long after people forget that beautiful painting.

The knowledge that he is going to open up and expose to these children—the information—in all the Cotullas and Johnson Cities and other places of the land—is going to pay results long after the pictures have faded.

So I want to say that as man continues with this work—in education and health to make these wonderful discoveries such as Dr. Kornberg has just made at Stanford University—I devoutly hope that men like him will grow in the wisdom that is needed to apply the results of this study to all mankind.

I remember how frightening it was when we split the atom—how frightening it still is. But thank goodness we have had the wisdom of men with prudence and understanding to deal with this problem.

I devoutly hope that men like Dr. Kornberg will grow in wisdom with the years.

While this is being announced today—this afternoon, tonight, at Stanford University, across the land—another great experiment is under way all across America. That is one that Senator Benton is participating in. That is in unlocking the power—unleashing, not Chiang Kai-shek—but unleashing the power of the human potential.

Unleashing the power of the human potential has always been the American dream in this country. If we can keep the momentum of education going—it is going to slow some when we start balancing these budgets and we try to have guns and butter, and try to protect our freedom with one hand; keep our guard up and our hand out with education and health and the others—we cannot do it all overnight.

But we are moving forward. We are moving again. That curve is going up in education and in health.

If we can improve the quality of education and the quantity of education at every level, and we can make education available to every child. There are really not many types of children. There are not many types of human beings. And there is really not any difference in them. They have two legs, two arms, and just three colors.

If we treat them all alike—my little Luci

made the best civil rights speech I ever heard. She said, "I don't understand why all of this misunderstanding and hatred and everything about civil rights." She was 11 years old and was out in California.

I was frightened to death that she was going to eliminate me from the race with the civil rights speech.

But she said, "I have white hair and blue eyes, and my mother has brown hair and brown eyes. My sister has olive skin and black hair, and my daddy—what little hair he has got—has black hair. He is fair. We all have different colored eyes, different colored hair, different colored skin, and we have the most wonderful family. We just get along fine. If we can get along well together, I don't know why all the world can't get along together."

So if we can make an education available to all who are fair, all who are blonde, all who are brunette, and all the different colors, all with the same legs, same arms and the same hearts, if we can do that we shall make this country the America that we want it to be.

We shall make this country the American

reality. We shall make this country the land that our great grandparents thought they were coming to when they first set foot on our shores.

Pardon me for asking you to stand this long. I appreciate your indulgence. I always have the feeling that I enjoy talking about the potentials, the human potential and bettering humankind, by conservation, by education, by medical care and health care—I enjoy talking about it perhaps more than some people enjoy hearing it.

NOTE: The President spoke at 6 p.m. at the Museum of History and Technology of the Smithsonian Institution. In his opening words he referred to Dr. S. Dillon Ripley, Secretary of the Institution, and William Benton, chairman of Encyclopaedia Britannica, Inc., and Senator from Connecticut 1949–1953. During his remarks he referred to, among others, Herbert H. Lehman, Senator from New York 1949–1957, and Chiang Kai-shek, President of the Republic of China.

At the ceremony Mr. Benton announced the donation of 1,000 sets of the Encyclopaedia to disadvantaged schools and libraries throughout the Nation. The sets were to be called "Presidential Reference Libraries" in honor of the President's efforts on behalf of education.

The 200th anniversary edition of the Encyclopaedia Britannica was dedicated jointly to President Johnson and to Queen Elizabeth II.

541 Remarks Upon Signing Bill Amending the Meat Inspection Act. December 15, 1967

Secretary Freeman, Miss Furness, Senator Holland, Senator Mondale, Senator Montoya, Chairman Poage, Members of Congress, ladies and gentlemen:

In 1906, Upton Sinclair roused the conscience of the country with his book "The Jungle." It described conditions in our meat-packing plants. I thought it would be good this morning if I read you a line or two:

"There would be meat that had tumbled out on the floor . . . where the workers had tramped . . . in the barrels (were) dirt and

rust and old nails and stale water . . . (all) taken up and dumped into the hoppers with fresh meat, and sent out to the public's breakfast."

Then listen to this:

"A man was wrapping pork shoulders. He dropped one in the sawdust, picked it up and wiped it off with a dirty, sour rag. . . . Beef was being broken on an open dock, by a dirt road, in 95-degree weather. There were flies in the meat. Drums of bones and meat scraps were covered with maggots."

What I just read to you was not from "The Jungle." It did not happen 60 years ago when Upton Sinclair was writing his book. It happened in July 1967. It was written by a United States Federal Government inspector after a visit to one of our great, modern packing plants.

We are here this morning to make sure that that plant will either clean up or close down.

We have waited a long time for this bill.

Upton Sinclair's book spurred the public to fight for a clean meat bill. They got a clean meat bill—the Meat Inspection Act of 1907.

President Theodore Roosevelt said it would "insure wholesomeness from the hoof to the can."

But that bill did only a very small part of the job. It covered only meat that crossed State lines.

That left a gap. It did not protect our families against the 8¾ billion pounds of meat that received no Federal inspection.

That is enough meat to feed 50 million people.

That is 15 percent of all the fresh meat that is sold—and that is 25 percent of all the processed meat products sold—in this entire country.

This doesn't mean that all, or even half, of that meat in any way is tainted—or suspected. But:

- It does mean that somewhere there are some packers who have been peddling meat from "4-D" animals—dead, dying, disabled, and diseased.
- It does mean that these shady processors—whoever and wherever they may be—have been allowed to operate some filthy plants in this country, and one filthy plant is one too many.
- It does mean we are risking the health of our children and of our families.

This is an intolerable condition in the 20th century in a modern nation that prides itself on reputed leadership of the world. I have been urging and I have been asking for a strong meat inspection bill since 1964.

The Wholesome Meat Act of 1967—which has been brought to me by the good work of the Congress—will give something priceless, I think, to American housewives. It will give them assurance that the meat that they put on the dinner table for their husbands and their children is pure; that it has been packed and it has been processed in a sanitary plant.

Here is what this bill does:

- It gives the State 2 years to develop a meat inspection program that is equally as good as the Federal Government's. If the State does not do so, the Federal system will be applied.
- It offers the States Federal help to set up those inspection systems.
- It raises the quality standards for all imported meats.
- And, it gives the Secretary of Agriculture—for the first time—the power to inspect State plants. Now, if a State won't clean up a plant which endangers the public health of that State's citizens, then the Federal Government will clean it up and will take action, and has the authority to do so.

But even the best protection laws won't work unless they are effectively enforced. I have asked Secretary Freeman to go out in the countryside to get the inspectors he needs and to bring about the necessary enforcement.

And this is not going to break our budget. It will break somebody, if we don't do it.

This Wholesome Meat Act is a landmark, we think, in consumer protection. It helps every American—by assuring him that the meat his family consumes has been inspected

with their health and their safety in mind.

Mr. Sinclair, I am told, is here today. If he is I would like for him to stand up, please.

Mr. Sinclair, we are so glad to have you here in the East Room with many of the distinguished Members of the Congress and people who are interested in this wholesome meat legislation.

This bill really crowns the crusade that you, yourself, began some 60 years ago.

We salute you, sir, and we thank you.

Now, if I may, I have a man-bites-dog story here. I know that is the rule the media operates on. I want to observe this morning that this bill is here because other writers have carried on a crusade, too.

Perceptive and responsible men have gone about arousing the conscience of America in our day—as Miss Furness is in hers. These people are the journalists who exposed the conditions that this bill is meant to remedy.

So I find more than great public good this morning in this ceremony. It is a personal pleasure to me to be on the side of the

fourth estate—for at least once.

I only hope that its members will not be so startled by my tribute that they fail to report it properly for posterity.

For it should be written, on the evidence of this and on many other days of celebration, that the good people of America will always respond when they have the facts—and when they hear a responsible call to action.

At least, according to my slide rules, calculations, and judgments for 37 years—at least applied to myself—they have exercised good judgment.

Thank you very much.

NOTE: The President spoke at 11:12 a.m. in the East Room at the White House. In his opening words he referred to Orville L. Freeman, Secretary of Agriculture, Betty Furness, Special Assistant to the President for Consumer Affairs, Senator Spessard L. Holland of Florida, Senator Walter F. Mondale of Minnesota, Senator Joseph M. Montoya of New Mexico, and Representative W. R. Poage of Texas, Chairman of the House Committee on Agriculture.

As enacted, the bill (H.R. 12144) is Public Law 90-201 (81 Stat. 584).

542 Statement by the President Upon Authorizing Federal Assistance to the New Haven Railroad. *December 15, 1967*

THE Federal Government is acting today to keep the New Haven Railroad running.

We are acting on behalf of:

—The 40,000 commuters who use it daily to get to their jobs.

—The 5 million people for whom the New Haven provides the only available railway service.

Last May I met with the New England Governors at Windsor Locks in Connecticut. High on the agenda was the plight of the New Haven. I pledged the full cooperation of the Federal Government. I directed officials of the Department of Housing and Urban Development and the Department of

Transportation to remain in close touch with officials of the Railroad and the States of Connecticut, New York, Massachusetts, and Rhode Island.

The problem today is even more urgent.

The New Haven now awaits inclusion in the proposed merger of the New York Central and Pennsylvania Railroads. But this is still before the courts.

In the meantime, the New Haven is close to financial disaster. Within months, it may not be able to meet its payroll. It needs help now.

To keep the New Haven running until a permanent solution is found, I have author-

ized the following immediate actions:

1. Secretary Weaver has approved the awarding of an urban mass transit capital grant. It will provide more than \$28 million to improve the Railroad's west end commuter service in the next few years. Details of the grant will be developed in response to specific requirements by officials of the Federal Government, the New Haven, and the States of Connecticut and New York. But the purpose of this action is clear—to provide better commuter service between New York City and its northern suburbs.

2. Secretary Boyd will speed action to provide about \$500,000 for improvements to the Railroad's right-of-way. This is part of the Department of Transportation's demonstration program for high-speed ground transportation.

3. To assist the New Haven with its cash emergency, the Federal Government is agree-

ing, subject to court approval, to a plan for immediate debt deferral. In effect, this would make available to the Railroad \$1.7 million in cash, funds now earmarked for payment to the Federal Government. Under the proposed agreement, the Federal Government's financial interest will be fully protected. As part of this plan, the Government will not press various disputed claims for interest.

These actions are not the final answers for the New Haven. They do help avert an immediate crisis.

The New Haven's problems are symptomatic of what afflicts much of America's system of urban transportation. Even as we act today, we rededicate ourselves to the ideal of a national transportation network worthy of the people it serves.

NOTE: For the President's meeting with the Governors of New England States at Windsor Locks, Conn., see Item 222.

543 Statement by the President on the Forthcoming Retirement of Prime Minister Lester Pearson of Canada. *December 15, 1967*

PRIME MINISTER Pearson has served his country and the world for 40 years with distinction—as diplomat, party leader, and Prime Minister. We shall remain in close con-

tact with the Prime Minister in the weeks ahead. We believe that the cordial relations which our two countries have so long enjoyed will continue beyond his retirement.

544 Remarks at the Lighting of the Nation's Christmas Tree. *December 15, 1967*

Secretary Udall, Governor Hoff, Mayor Washington, Mr. Dalton, reverend clergy, distinguished guests, ladies and gentlemen:

Yesterday, in the great State of California, a team of scientists announced that they had come closer than men had ever come before to creating life in a laboratory.

Yesterday, and today, men sat at missile sites and airfields throughout the world. They wore different uniforms and they spoke different languages. But they all controlled the power to destroy a human being, a human life, on an unprecedented scale.

Today a child was born in an American

hospital. His chances of living a long life, of being well educated, of being gainfully employed, of enjoying the amenities of a good life, and of passing even wider opportunities on to his children, are greater than they have been for any child, born at any time, in any nation, in recorded history.

Today a young soldier, in the prime of his life, was killed in the central highlands of Vietnam. A life that might have been spent productively, in the works of peace, has now been swiftly cut off in the waste of war.

These expressions of man in our time—of the power to create life, and the power to destroy life, of the flowering of hope, and the renewal of tragedy—are in some ways very unique. But in other ways they are typical of the human condition in every age.

In a few days we shall all celebrate the birth of His Holiness on earth. We shall recreate in our minds, once more, the ancient coming of that Spirit who remains alive for millions in our time. We shall acknowledge the Kingdom of a Child in a world of men.

That Child—we should remember—grew into manhood Himself, preached and moved men in many walks of life, and died in agony.

But His death—so the Christian faith tells us—was not the end. For Him, and for millions of men and women ever since, it marked a time of triumph—when the spirit of life triumphed over death.

So—if this Christmas season in a time of war is to have real meaning to us, it must celebrate more than the birth of a Baby. It must celebrate the birth of a Spirit who endured scorn and hardship and the tragedy of an unjust death—and who yet speaks to us, across 20 centuries, of the promise of life.

Half a million American families will celebrate His birth this year without a beloved son or husband near them.

Half a million brave American men—who love their country and are willing to die for their land—will be celebrating Christmas in a strange land, surrounded by the weapons of war.

A part of every American heart will be with them.

What sustains us—as we turn on the lights of this tree, and of millions of trees in millions of American homes—is the belief that the spirit of life will triumph over death. It is the conviction that peace will come, and will permit us to give our lives completely to building, instead of giving our lives to destroying.

It is the faith that says the creation of new hope for man, through scientific discovery, is finally much more important than great destructive power—that also came from science.

It is the hope that says a life of peace and promise is more likely for man than a life of war and misery.

This is the message of the holy season. May it—in an hour of trial—fill us with its deep, abiding joy.

Thank you and good evening.

NOTE: The President spoke at 5:50 p.m. at the 14th annual Pageant of Peace ceremonies on the Ellipse near the White House, just before lighting the National Community Christmas Tree—a 70-foot balsam fir from the Green Mountain National Forest given by the people of Vermont. In his opening words he referred to Stewart L. Udall, Secretary of the Interior, Philip H. Hoff, Governor of Vermont, Walter E. Washington, Commissioner of the District of Columbia, and John M. Dalton, chairman of the Pageant of Peace. Early in his remarks the President referred to the creation of the first synthetic DNA molecule by Dr. Arthur Kornberg and his associates at Stanford University, California. The President's remarks were broadcast nationally.

545 Remarks Upon Signing the Kennedy Round Trade Negotiations Proclamation. *December 16, 1967*

Secretary Rusk, Ambassador Roth, Members of Congress, ladies and gentlemen:

The large enterprises that really shape history take a great deal of time and much hard work.

As our team of negotiators know so well, the Kennedy Round has been just such an enterprise.

It was 5 years ago that the Congress passed the Trade Expansion Act but that act only provided us with some authority. It did not provide us with any guarantee of results.

It took 5 years of very careful and very difficult negotiations to reach the agreements that were signed in Geneva on June 30 of this year.

We are indebted to many people for the conduct of those negotiations.

This morning we come here to the Cabinet Room to celebrate the first concrete results of this long effort.

Beginning January 1 our tariffs on many of the products that we import will drop in the first of what will be five annual reductions.

This will mean lowering the prices to our consumers and lowering the costs to our manufacturers.

Our trading partners will take equivalent action on their tariffs, too.

This will mean bigger export sales, we hope, for American businessmen and American farmers.

Those who negotiated at Geneva drove a hard bargain, but we believe it was a fair bargain.

We gave, we think, as much as we received.

It was the kind of bargain from which all will gain.

They will gain in higher wages for the workers, in more efficient factories, in rising incomes for us all, and for our trading partners throughout the world.

Now, these negotiations were on a world scale but they had a very special significance for our relations with Western Europe because for the first time we negotiated directly with the European Common Market as an institution.

We were dealing with the power of the world's largest trading bloc.

The negotiations demonstrated what we have very long believed: The more that Western Europe acts together the more effectively we and other countries can work together.

This was a subject I explored with a great deal of interest this last week with Mr. Monnet, who was here from Europe, and who insisted on talking about it at great length.

This was evident, we think, in a number of very constructive steps that were taken during this year, in a very wide variety of activities with our European neighbors.

Contrary to what a good many have thought, or said, or, if you please, written, our thoughts were not constantly and exclusively on Vietnam. There were other parts of the world that did receive consideration and attention as must be obvious.

NATO, from which Secretary Rusk has just returned this morning, continues to be the strongest integrated alliance in history—it is not just a mere collection of allies—even while we had to move its nerve center from France to Belgium.

There was a question of what would happen to the 15 nations in connection with

some of the decisions made concerning our move and the continuance of the alliance.

During this year we had some very important activities in connection with our German and our British allies, when we reached a trilateral agreement, under Secretary Rusk's and Mr. McCloy's leadership, that enabled us to maintain our commitments, our troop commitments, to NATO's central fund, and which helped us also to materially ease our balance of payments.

There was a time with many resolutions in our own Congress to bring our men home, and when it was being reported that the Germans themselves would take substantial reductions in troops—I think 60,000—that there was alarm in the world.

But the *fait accompli* did not come out that way.

Also, together with the other members of the International Monetary Fund, we achieved an agreement which lays the foundation for the supplementary international reserves needed by the world economy, which resulted in many discussions in London and subsequently confirmed at Rio.

We are making progress, we believe, toward an accord to halt the spread of nuclear weapons—while at the same time ensuring that all nations will be able to benefit from the peaceful uses of nuclear energy.

We have worked with our NATO allies and with the U.N. to forestall a tragic war between Greece and Turkey, and to open the way to a peaceful settlement of the Cyprus problem.

We are working with other industrial countries to provide very special trade advantages to the developing countries which could help to speed up the growth of their exports and to accelerate their economic progress.

These achievements, I think, demonstrate the basic principle of interdependence in international policy.

By moving together we all move forward. By moving separately we may end up by just not moving at all, if we try to go alone.

Trade will be a critical test of our co-operation. The reduced tariffs of the Kennedy Round will give rise to many demands for protection here and abroad.

We must all stand firm against shortsighted protectionism.

Now, we have shown that we can work together with united allies in many fields. I have listed four or five of them.

If we can do it in these four or five, we have a land of opportunity out there where we can do it in others.

We all have problems of the cities, urban problems, and many of theirs are as serious if not more so than ours—older cities. But if we can do it on trade, if we can do it on troops, if we can do it on the NATO alliance, if we can do it on money, why can't we do it on cities?

The problem of all the world is a problem of what are we going to do about the developing nations.

Four out of every ten people can't read "dog," and can't write "mama," and can't spell "cat."

There are the education problems, the health problems, the developing nations problems, *per se*.

If we can work out these things together, why can't we work together on aid for developing nations?

Why can't we work together on aid for rebuilding the cities of the world?

So, I take great pride, not only in what the Kennedy Round does just within itself, but what it portends, and what may flow from

the knowledge that if we can do it in connection with all these things that we buy and sell, which reach pretty close to home in some of these places, we can do it on others.

We know that to sell abroad we must be willing to buy abroad. If we cannot buy, then we cannot sell.

Above all, we in the United States should have the confidence in our own ability to compete in the world—although as the protectionists talk to me day after day I think sometimes we are losing confidence in our own ability.

We started on the road to expanding trade about 30 years ago, under the policies of a great Secretary of State and President.

Its advances, I think, are pretty evident to us all. Now, to retreat from it would, I think, set a chain reaction of counter-protection and retaliation that would put in jeopardy our ability to work together and to prosper together.

What captain of industry or what union leader in this country really yearns and is eager to return to the days of Smoot-Hawley? For the world of higher tariffs, and quotas, and competitive currency depreciation was also the world of you-know-what—deep depressions, rampant unemployment, low profits, if any, and, generally, losses; corporation losses instead of corporation profits.

So, this day of declining trade barriers in a world of unprecedented prosperity and growth is something we want to continue.

We must and we will, I hope, keep it that way.

Almost every person in this room this morning had a share in this legislation and

made a contribution to the soul-searching decisions and the difficult negotiations that lay behind the great accomplishments that we know as the Kennedy Round.

I want to thank each of you present for the help you gave and the role you played.

I know that we share the faith and the confidence to continue on that long road.

I want to say a special thanks to Mrs. Herter and her family for the great contribution that that noble, enlightened statesman made to this endeavor—Christian Herter.

I want to expressly give my personal thanks on behalf of the people I can speak for—that is this Nation.

I believe the whole world feels it.

To Ambassador Roth, Ambassador Blumenthal, and to Secretary Rusk and the Members of Congress who contributed so much, so long, under such adverse conditions I want to say thank you and hope that it will, in some degree, compensate you for the criticisms that you have endured throughout this journey.

NOTE: The President spoke at 11:55 a.m. in the Cabinet Room at the White House upon signing Proclamation 3822 "Proclamation To Carry Out Geneva (1967) Protocol to the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade and Other Agreements" (3 Weekly Comp. Pres. Docs., p. 1732; 32 F.R. 19002; 3 CFR, 1967 Comp., p. 98). In his opening words he referred to Dean Rusk, Secretary of State, and William M. Roth, Special Representative for Trade Negotiations. During his remarks he referred to Jean Monnet, president of the Action Committee for the United States of Europe, John J. McCloy, United States representative to the trilateral conversations of the United States, the Federal Republic of Germany, and the United Kingdom, Mrs. Christian A. Herter, widow of the former Secretary of State and first Special Representative for Trade Negotiations, and W. Michael Blumenthal, Deputy Special Representative for Trade Negotiations.

546 Remarks Upon Signing Bills Increasing the Pay of Federal Civilian Employees and of Members of the Uniformed Services. *December 16, 1967*

Postmaster General O'Brien, Chairman Macy, Senator Monroney, other Members of the Post Office Committee in the Senate, Members of the House, ladies and gentlemen:

It could be that another man should be standing in for me here today. But it happens that he is a famous toymaker and this is his busy season.

He did send me a telegram that I think I should share with you. It read:

"Regret unable to join all of you. I am swamped by orders received following last night's Republican telecast. All Americans want wooden soldiers for Christmas."

Signed: "Santa Claus."

I would not want my Republican friends to misinterpret this telegram. It was sent in the spirit of the season—the spirit of peace and good will.

And Senator Dirksen did receive a copy.

It was sent by special delivery reindeer.

Even if Santa Claus is not here this morning, we must proceed to our business, which, in this case, is a pleasant undertaking. Even ahead of the Christmas tree, we are going to unwrap our Christmas package.

We will shortly sign two bills which we think will greatly brighten the Christmas of our men in uniform, of our Government employees, and of our postal workers.

This year our postal system moved as much mail as all the other nations combined—80 billion items. And it is going up by the millions every year.

That is an incredible, unbelievable achievement. It is a staggering burden.

The postal service cannot handle it with-

out modern equipment and facilities. We must be frank—they just do not have the equipment or the facilities now.

One of the bills that we sign here this morning will give them \$900 million to get going—to streamline to serve Americans better.

It will cost a great deal of money, but it will come out of the right pockets. The largest costs will be borne by the largest mail users—not the small taxpayer.

The change is long overdue. It is an extra little present that we put under the family Christmas tree this year.

You men and women in the Congress are responsible for it. Your President thanks you on behalf of the people and the employees.

Our men and our women in uniform, and our citizens in Government, are also going to have something to celebrate. Today we sign the fourth civilian pay bill since I took office 4 years ago.

Looking back, we can see just how far we have come.

We can see how long the men and women of Government have waited.

There were no pay increases at all for 15 years—from 1930 through 1945. Then we did some catching up after World War II. The going was steady, but it was very slow even then.

We really hit our stride in 1964.

I have signed a civilian and postal pay increase bill every year since I became President: in 1964, in 1965, in 1966, and in 1967. And that isn't status quo.

Together, these bills have given a 15.2 percent increase to Federal workers and an

18.1 percent raise to postal workers. They have been among the proudest moments of my Presidency.

This year I am prouder still because I know that this bill takes care of 1968 and takes care of 1969 as well.

I see Senator Monroney has just come in. I want to thank him for seeing that 1968 and 1969 were taken care of. I also want to thank the other Members of Congress who provided for these particulars.

We think this bill is by far the best in guaranteeing equity and justice which we have long sought. Government employees and their families will no longer have to live on the margin.

This bill, we think, emancipates them.

It continues the long climb to equality—and we think the goal is close.

Government salaries will compare with industry's.

This will happen in three stages: October 1967, July 1968, and July 1969.

Now, this three-step increase we think is prudent. We have tried not to overburden the Federal budget. As enacted by the Congress, these new benefits will cost \$1 billion in fiscal 1968 and \$2 billion in fiscal 1969.

I had recommended October 1968 as the effective date for the second step of the pay raise. The Congress enacted a July date. This change will add \$400 million to next year's budget costs. And I am sure that I will be criticized for missing the estimates on the budget or for having a deficit.

But we will endure that, too.

This bill will create a commission to review executive-level salaries every 4 years.

We have asked for that as extra protection.

For the first time, equity and justice now

have a permanent place in the Federal pay system.

For the first time, our public servants will not have to make the choice between leaving public service or suffering great financial sacrifice.

For the first time, we have a bill that we think fairly and wisely revises the insurance coverage.

The Government now guarantees a sound, basic insurance program for its employees. It allows additional insurance to all who want to buy it at their own expense.

The new provisions are practical and just for both Government worker and for taxpayer.

The military receive equal recognition and justice.

Last April I asked the Congress to put the civilian and military pay raises into one package. I wanted a law that proclaimed full equality—a bill based on the principle that the military would move forward in step with the civilians and not bring up the rear, as they have too often been forced to do.

I thank the Congress publicly, very much again, for correcting that.

This military pay bill is the fifth in as many years. With it, basic military pay has risen by more than 40 percent since 1962. And other benefits have grown, too, for all ranks, from the sergeant to the general. And I am glad of that.

Patriotism can be its own reward and thank God we have many gallant men and women who are willing to live and die by that belief. But that is no excuse for making patriotism a penalty.

Military men and women, and their families, deserve a standard of living equal to the

demands we place upon them. That is our duty to those who bear the hard duty of defending our freedoms and of guarding our peace.

With this bill, we will accept that duty proudly and gladly. So, it is a pride and gladness in which I think all Americans share.

This bill is signed for the benefit of all Americans. It strengthens all Americans, and particularly the American Government of which we are so proud.

Really, that is our people's strength—that is our Nation's greatness.

I am happy that after these many long 11 months we have finally found an area of agreement that I think promotes equity,

fairness, and justice. That is somewhat of a tribute to the Founding Fathers who conceived three independent and separate branches of government.

Thank you very much.

NOTE: The President spoke at 1:12 p.m. in the Cabinet Room at the White House. In his opening words he referred to Lawrence F. O'Brien, Postmaster General, John W. Macy, Jr., Chairman of the Civil Service Commission, and Senator A. S. Mike Monroney of Oklahoma, Chairman of the Senate Post Office and Civil Service Committee. During his remarks he referred to Senator Everett McKinley Dirksen of Illinois, Senate Minority Leader.

As enacted, the bills (H.R. 7977 and H.R. 13510) are Public Laws 90-206 and 90-207 (81 Stat. 613, 649).

547 Statement by the President After Signing Bill for the Acquisition of Lands for Migratory Waterfowl Refuges. *December 16, 1967*

I HAVE signed H.R. 480, a bill extending for 8 years authority to appropriate up to \$105 million for the acquisition of land for migratory waterfowl refuges.

In 1961, Congress recognized that the accelerated acquisition of wetlands is essential, if this country is to preserve the natural environment that waterfowl and other birds must have for survival.

With the \$46 million actually appropriated since 1961, less than half of the 2.5 million acres of the wetlands originally estimated as being acquirable have been purchased or leased. This bill gives the migratory bird conservation fund additional time for obtaining the remaining \$59 million of authorized appropriations.

Revenues from the sale of "duck stamps"

will continue to help pay for land acquisitions as they occur. Eventually, "duck stamp" revenues will reimburse the Treasury for the appropriations that are again authorized by this bill.

The acquisition of migratory waterfowl refuges is of particular interest and benefit to hunters, and the Secretary of the Interior has recommended to Congress that the "duck stamp" fee be increased from \$3 to \$5 to help meet the cost of the accelerated program. The House has already passed a bill for this purpose. I urge the Senate to complete action on the measure early in the next session of Congress.

NOTE: As enacted, the bill (H.R. 480), approved on December 15, 1967, is Public Law 90-205 (81 Stat. 612).

548 Statement by the President After Signing the Age
Discrimination in Employment Act of 1967.
December 16, 1967

DURING my 4 years in the Presidency, I have fought discrimination in employment in all of its ugly forms with every power of my office.

In 1963, Congress passed the Equal Pay Act, prohibiting wage discrimination on the basis of sex for workers covered by Federal minimum wage standards.

A year later, the Civil Rights Act of 1964 outlawed job discrimination because of race, color, religion, sex, or national origin.

That historic act also directed the Secretary of Labor to study another problem of employment discrimination—one which had long been ignored, and about which little was known. It was the noxious practice of discrimination because of age.

The report of the Secretary of Labor showed that, although there are now 52 million Americans between the ages of 40 and 64, half of all jobs were closed to workers over 55, and one-fourth of all jobs were closed to workers over 45.

It showed that workers 45 years old and older made up half of this country's long term unemployed, and over one-fourth of all the unemployed.

It showed that, of the billion dollars in unemployment insurance paid out each year, three-fourths went to workers 45 or over.

It showed that, although Americans are now living longer and enjoying better health than ever before, older workers were often barred from jobs that could be performed efficiently by workers of any age.

Those figures added up to a senseless and costly waste of human talents and energy. They showed that men and women who

needed to work—who wanted to work—and who were able to work, were not being given a fair chance to work.

The need for national action was clear. In my message to Congress in January of this very year, I recommended the Age Discrimination in Employment Act of 1967. Yesterday I signed that act.

Its basic purpose is to outlaw discrimination in employment against persons 40 to 65 years of age. It makes proper allowance for cases where age is a bona fide qualification for employment.

This act does not compel employers and labor unions and employment agencies to choose a person aged 40 to 65 over another person. It does require that one simple question be answered fairly:

Who has the best qualifications for the job?

When improper age discrimination does occur, the act requires conciliation and persuasion. If voluntary compliance cannot be arranged, it permits court action. The act also calls for research and education to melt the misinformation and unconscious bias toward older workers that still exist today.

The Age Discrimination in Employment Act of 1967 gives the vital part of our labor force between 40 and 65 a better chance to go on working productively and gainfully. The country will gain as well—from making better use of their skills and experience.

This is humane and practical legislation. The Congress acted wisely in passing it and I am proud to sign it.

This measure joins more than 50 other humane legislative proposals written into

law during the first session of the 90th Congress.

NOTE: As enacted, the bill (S. 830), approved on December 15, 1967, is Public Law 90-202 (81 Stat. 602).

549 The President's Christmas Message to the Men and Women of the Armed Forces. *December 16, 1967*

THE FIRST Christmas season of our independence lives in our literature and our legend as a time that tried men's souls. Service to country was the test of a patriot. "He that stands it *now*," wrote Thomas Paine, "deserves the love and thanks of man and woman."

We were 2½ million people then, and our purpose was freedom.

Now we are 200 million people, and our purpose is unchanged—it is freedom still.

Out of the sacrifices of those who stood in 1776 and the years that followed, the dream of liberty took life.

But the struggle that tested their devotion has never ended.

In almost every generation since, Americans have stood on other fields of battle—as you stand now—to fight for freedom—to fight to preserve their country.

The soldiers who served under Washington were men for their time. They marched to make a nation. But they were also men for all ages, marching to a distant drum.

"The fate of unborn millions," General Washington said, "will now depend under God on the courage and conduct of this army."

His words carry across the years. Their message is undimmed in our time.

Because of your courage, and your steadfastness, freedom today endures on this earth. And with freedom's survival, man's hope for peace is strengthened. For without freedom, there could be no peace—only a dead dream in a darkened world.

This is the meaning of your service and sacrifice in this Christmas season, when the souls of men are being tested again. No Americans before you have more surely earned the Nation's tribute.

May God bless you and your loved ones is the wish of your President at this Christmas season.

NOTE: The message was prepared for distribution to the Armed Forces after December 16, 1967. It was made available to the press through the White House Press Office but was not issued in the form of a White House press release.

550 Statement by the President on the Death of Prime Minister Harold Holt of Australia. *December 18, 1967*

AMERICANS are proud of the friendship they enjoyed with Prime Minister Harold Holt. We mourn him with all the grief that Australians feel.

It is a cruel tragedy that he has been taken from us by this accident. For so many of his days were devoted to guarding a nation and a world against hazard. His dream was to

bring order and design to man's brightest hopes. He fought with rare courage, tenacity, and vision to assure that men would live safe from peril in the promise of freedom.

My personal loss is heavy. Harold Holt was generous with the gift of a warm and wise heart. I found comfort in his friendship and strength in his partnership. He

and the people for whom he spoke were always dependable and unshakable. Those blessings of his example cannot be removed. They are as eternal as the sea that has taken this good and gallant champion away.

Mrs. Johnson and I—and all Americans—mourn his death.

NOTE: Prime Minister Holt was missing and presumed drowned on December 18 in hazardous waters off the coast of Portsea, Australia.

The President recorded the statement for broadcast at 10:14 a.m. in the Cabinet Room at the White House.

551 Interview for the Australian Broadcasting Company Following the Death of Prime Minister Holt. *December 18, 1967*

[Held with Peter Barnett of the Australian Broadcasting Company]

MR. BARNETT. Mr. President, you only knew Mr. Holt for 18 months, but in that time you became particularly close friends. What was the reason for this special relationship?

THE PRESIDENT. Well, I have known the Australian people a long time and I have admired them greatly. And, I think, he was typically representative of them. He was a man who cared. He was a tough fellow. He asked no quarter, and he gave none in negotiations representing his country.

We struck things off together. He spoke plain, unvarnished, without any dressing. I had been told by Sir Robert Menzies, who was my great friend for many years, of some of the qualities of Mr. Holt before he became so well known in the world as Prime Minister.

I don't think I have ever known a man whom I trusted more, or for whom I had greater affection and respect.

MR. BARNETT. Do you remember what your first impressions were, Mr. President?

THE PRESIDENT. I don't remember specifically at this moment, in this interview at the end of a busy day, just when and where it was. But it was the impression that is associated with his country, the impression

of candor, frankness, honesty, thoroughness, courage, tenacity, doing what is right and of staying with you all the way through if you are right, and never starting with you if you are wrong.

I just think the Australian people are in a class by themselves. I don't want to overdo it, but I feel very sentimental about them and very attached to them because of my association with them during the war days, and every person that I have seen from that country since.

I am sure you have some bad ones, but they never come my way.

MR. BARNETT. Mr. President, with Mr. Holt was there any one special incident you would like to remember him by?

THE PRESIDENT. He spent the weekend with me at Camp David, he and Mrs. Holt. She is very charming.

He had important problems to discuss, but he organized them, presented them; we evaluated them, and we reached agreements on them.

Then he wanted to go swimming. He loved to swim. We went out to the swimming pool. I had a short swim. I couldn't get him out of the water. He stayed in it.

Finally we served lunch. He ate lunch in his bathing suit. He loved the out of doors. He loved the exercise and things of that kind.

It has been one of the saddest things that has happened to us in Washington since I have been here—to have had the message.

I talked to Ambassador Clark two or three times. I talked, when I first heard it—at midnight I called the consular agent acting in the Ambassador's absence while he was in another part of Australia.

Our sorrow is great and our grief is deep.

Mrs. Johnson will go through with the affairs we had scheduled here during Christ-

mas week, but I just had to go. I will be leaving at 11 o'clock in the morning.

MR. BARNETT. Thank you very much, sir.

NOTE: The interview was held at 6:25 p.m. in the Fish Room at the White House. In his remarks the President referred to Edward Clark, U.S. Ambassador to Australia.

On the same day the White House Press Secretary announced that the President would leave Washington at noon on December 19 to attend memorial services for the Prime Minister on December 22 in Australia.

552 Telegram on the Occasion of the Silver Bridge Tragedy, West Virginia-Ohio. *December 18, 1967*

THE NATION has been saddened by the Silver Bridge tragedy and I express deepest sympathy to you and through you to the stricken families and the people of West Virginia and Ohio. As you know, immediately upon learning of this disaster all appropriate Federal agencies were called upon to render rescue and recovery assistance coordinated by the Office of Emergency Planning. They have been at the scene with you and will continue as long as needed. Also, in addition to conducting an investigation of the causes, we are rushing plans to help

you restore transportation across the river and help rebuild the bridge. Every possible help will continue to be rendered.

LYNDON B. JOHNSON

NOTE: This is the text of identical telegrams addressed to Governor Hulett C. Smith of West Virginia, Governor James A. Rhodes of Ohio, Representative Ken Hechler of West Virginia, and Representative Clarence E. Miller of Ohio, following the collapse of a bridge over the Ohio River connecting Gallipolis, Ohio, and Point Pleasant, W. Va.

For a statement by the President upon establishing a task force to conduct a national survey of bridge safety, see Item 558.

553 Statement by the President Upon Signing Bill Establishing the National Park Foundation. *December 19, 1967*

AMERICANS are increasingly concerned with preserving our natural landscapes.

Recent Congresses—particularly the 89th—have moved boldly forward to create new national seashores and lakeshores close to crowded urban centers. They have provided recreation opportunities for millions of families.

Federal and State governments are working to assure the continual enjoyment of

open areas in cities, and along riverways through the cooperative programs of the Land and Water Conservation Fund Act and the Historic Preservation Assistance Act.

The bill I have approved, S. 814, will build on these efforts. It provides a simple and direct way for individual Americans and corporations to forward the work of conservation.

The National Park Foundation created by this bill can play a major role in the preservation of our parks and open spaces.

Upon private capital, it will augment the work of the National, State, and local governments. Most importantly, it will offer individual Americans the chance to participate meaningfully in preserving and enhancing the quality of our environment.

The Foundation, whose board will be predominantly composed of private citizens, will be authorized to accept gifts and bequests of property—both personal and real—

for the programs of the National Park Service. Gifts to the Foundation will not be taxable.

I hope that the National Park Foundation will convey to all our people a sense of the need for, and the opportunity to create, park lands in the cities, on rivers and shores, and in the wilderness. Here is another adventure in partnership between government and concerned private citizens—designed to serve the common good.

NOTE: As enacted, the bill (S. 814), approved on December 18, 1967, is Public Law 90-209 (81 Stat. 656).

554 “A Conversation With the President,” Joint Interview for Use by the Television Networks. *December 19, 1967*

[Held with Raymond L. Scherer of NBC News, Frank Reynolds of ABC News, and Dan Rather of CBS News]

VIETNAM

MR. RATHER. [1.] Mr. President, I think any American seated in this chair tonight would want to ask you about peace. Do you have any fresh, new ideas about getting peace in Vietnam, or are we stuck with, as I think Secretary Rusk has put it, “waiting for some sign from the other side?”

THE PRESIDENT. Peace is the number 1 subject in the mind of every leader in the Government. We are searching for it a part of every day.

There are four or five specific things that we think should be agreed upon. We think that the war now going on at the DMZ, at the 17th parallel, should stop. We think that infiltration of Laos should stop. They have previously agreed to that.

We think that the people of South Vietnam have demonstrated that they want to

be governed on the basis of one man-one vote, and people who are prepared to live under that kind of an arrangement could live under that kind of arrangement.

The thing that we must recognize about peace is that it is much more than just wishing for it. You can't get it just because you want it. If that were true, we would have had it a long time ago, because there are no people in the world who want peace more than the President, the Cabinet, and the people of the United States.

But if we are to find the solution of uniting the people of South Vietnam, and solving the problems in South Vietnam, it must be done not by some Senator, or Congressman Ryan, or Senator Hartke, or Senator Fulbright, or some of our best intentioned people who want peace. This peace is going to be found by the leadership of South Vietnam, the people of South Vietnam, in South Vietnam.

We are encouraging that. We are going to continue to do our dead-level best to see this constitutional government, where 70

percent of their people registered and 60 percent of their people voted, develop some kind of a plan that we think will ultimately unite South Vietnam and bring peace to that area.

This will take time. This will take patience. This will take understanding.

The great problem we have is not misleading the enemy and letting him think—because of some of the statements he hears coming from us—that the way is cheap, or that it is easy, or that we are going to falter.

MR. SCHERER. Mr. President, there seems to be a growing impression throughout the world that the United States will settle for nothing less than military victory in Vietnam. What is your view on that?

THE PRESIDENT. I have just explained what I thought would be a fair solution. I will repeat it as briefly and as succinctly as I can.

The demilitarized zone must be respected as the 1954 agreements require. The unity of Vietnam as a whole must be a matter for peaceful adjustment and negotiation.

The North Vietnamese forces must get out of Laos and stop infiltrating Laos. That is what the 1962 agreement required, and it must be respected.

The overwhelming majority of the people of South Vietnam want a one man-one vote constitutional government.

About 70 percent of all the citizens who might have voted in South Vietnam registered in the election, and 60 percent of them voted.

The 20 percent or so of the population now under Vietcong control must live under a one man-one vote constitutional system if there is to be peace.

President Thieu has said that the South Vietnamese Government is not prepared to recognize the NLF as a government, and it knows well that NLF's control is by Hanoi. And so do we.

But he also has said that he is prepared for informal talks with members of the NLF, and that these could bring good results.

I think that is a statesmanlike position. And I hope the other side will respond. That is why our statement in early December said we believe that the South Vietnamese must work out their own future, acting through electoral processes of the kind carried forward in the last 2 years.

The political future of South Vietnam, Mr. Scherer, must be worked out in South Vietnam by the people of South Vietnam.

It is our judgment that this war could be ended in a matter of weeks if the other side would face these five simple facts, and if some of our own people here in this country would encourage that that be done instead of broadcasting alarms that may give false signals both to Hanoi and to the Vietcong.

MR. RATHER. Mr. President, are we willing to accept Communists in a coalition government, if the South Vietnamese Government and the NLF got together to negotiate? Are we willing to accept Communists in a coalition government?

THE PRESIDENT. I think that the thing we must bear in mind, that what happens in South Vietnam is up to the people of South Vietnam, not to North Vietnam, not to China, the Soviet Union, or the United States—but the people of South Vietnam.

We are prepared to have every man in South Vietnam under their constitutional government, one man-one vote—for those people themselves to determine the kind of government they want. We think we know what that determination would be from the 70 percent who are registered and the 60 percent who have voted. It is a matter for them to determine, not for me to determine.

I think that we might add one other thing here: When Mr. Reynolds says what are the minimum conditions for this or that, we

don't want to get sparring with each other.

But I can say that so far as the United States is concerned, we are ready to stop fighting tonight if they are ready to stop fighting. But we are not ready to stop our side of the war only to encourage them to escalate their side of the war.

We will reciprocate and meet any move that they make, but we are not going to be so softheaded and puddingheaded as to say that we will stop our half of the war and hope and pray that they stop theirs.

Now, we have tried that in some instances. We have leaned over backwards. Every time we have, they have escalated their efforts and they have killed our soldiers. We have got no result from it. A burnt child dreads the fire.

But if you want us to stop our bombing, you have to ask them to stop their bombing, stop their handgrenades, stop their mortars.

At San Antonio I laid out the formula and I said we will stop bombing immediately "provided you will have prompt and productive discussions."

Now, that is about as far as anyone can go. That is as far as anyone should go. That is as far as we are going.

MR. SCHERER. Mr. President, is it your feeling that you have now made our proposition and the next move is up to them?

THE PRESIDENT. Well, it is my feeling that our position in the world is very clearly known. If it is not, I have tried to repeat it enough tonight that the people can understand it.

MR. REYNOLDS. Mr. President, what is your assessment of Hanoi's attitude at this point in the war? Do you believe they are counting, sir, on your defeat next November?

THE PRESIDENT. I think that Hanoi feels that if they can hold out long enough, that they will not win a military victory against General Westmoreland. They haven't done

that. They can't point to one single victory they won from our Marines, or from our Air, or from our Navy, or from our Army.

They think, though, that they can repeat what happened to them with the French; that if their will is strong and they continue to remain firm, that they will develop enough sympathy and understanding in this country, and hatred for war in this country, that their will will outlast our will.

I don't think that is true. I think in due time, if our people will understand and recognize what is happening, I think they will help me prove it is not true.

MR. SCHERER. Mr. President, just to make this abundantly clear, what you seem to be saying here tonight is (a) that peace in Vietnam is principally up to the Saigon Government rather than the United States, and (b) that the Saigon Government can have useful talks with the Vietcong without recognizing them.

THE PRESIDENT. Yes, I have said that I think the war could be stopped in a matter of days if President Thieu's suggestions that he informally talk with members of the NLF are carried out and if they would agree to what they have already agreed to in the 1954 accords and the 1962 accords and the other points that I mentioned this morning, like one man-one vote under the present constitutional government.

I think that would be a useful starting point. And I think the result could be that we could find a way to stop the war.

MR. RATHER. Mr. President, I think what bothers some people, though, is that President Thieu and the South Vietnamese Government, as it is now constituted, say that they do not recognize the Vietcong, they do not recognize the NLF. How are they going to have negotiations with them if they don't recognize them?

THE PRESIDENT. They could have informal

talks with them, Dan. I said that the President had made clear that he would not recognize NLF, but we have made clear for many, many months that their views can be heard and we can respond to them; their recommendations can be received and we can react to them.

President Thieu, himself, in a very statesmanlike manner, has said that he would be agreeable to having informal talks with their representatives. We would hope that out of that some understanding could be reached.

I believe if it could be reached, the war could be brought to a close.

MR. SCHERER. Mr. President, much has been made of your 1964 campaign statement about not sending American boys to fight in an Asian war. As you look back on that now, was that a pledge, a hope, or was it simply a statement of principle in a larger context?

THE PRESIDENT. Well, it was one of many statements, if you will look back upon it, as a part of a policy, namely, our policy then and now was to keep our hand out for negotiations and for discussions, and for peace, and our guard up that would support the South Vietnamese to keep them from being enveloped.

We made clear all through that campaign, and in this speech which you have extracted one little single sentence out of, that we felt that the South Vietnamese ought to pledge every resource they had—their men, their materials, all of their resources—to defending themselves; that we would never supplant them. But we would supplement them to the extent that it was necessary.

We did not plan to go into Asia and to fight an Asian war that Asians ought to be fighting for themselves. But if Asians were fighting it for themselves and were using all the resources that they had in South Vietnam, there was no pledge, no commitment,

or no implication that we would not supplement them and support them as we are doing, and as we agreed to do many years before in the SEATO Treaty, and as we had agreed to do in the Gulf of Tonkin resolution before that statement.

MR. RATHER. Mr. President, if the South—

THE PRESIDENT. That has just been a part of the politicians' gambit of picking out one sentence before you get to the "but" in it, and say, "We are not going to take over all the fighting and do it ourselves. We are not going to do what Asian boys in South Vietnam should do."

They are doing it. They have over 700,000 men there out of 17 million population, and they are raising another 65,000 compared to the additional 40,000-odd that we are sending.

So we don't plan to supplant them at all. But we do plan to supplement them to whatever is necessary to keep the Communist conspiracy from gobbling up that nation.

MR. RATHER. Mr. President, if the South Vietnamese are as dedicated to freedom as you say, and as many who have been there say, why is it that they don't fight as well motivated, or at least seemingly, as the Vietcong and the Communist North Vietnamese?

To put it more bluntly, why don't our South Vietnamese fight as well as theirs?

THE PRESIDENT. I don't think that all people do everything alike. I know some television broadcasters are better than others. I know some Presidents that can perform in a conversation better than others.

General Abrams,¹ who is giving leadership to the South Vietnamese people, thinks that their army is developing very well.

¹ Gen. Creighton W. Abrams, Deputy Commander, United States Military Assistance Command, Vietnam.

Now, that is not to say that they are equal to the best troops of every other nation, but they have made great improvements. They are working at their job. They still have some problems to correct in leadership. That is what really determines what kind of a fighting force you have. But they are getting at it and they are getting results.

It is mighty easy to blame someone else. That is what we do. I don't think we get much out of blaming our allies or talking about how much better we are than they.

Most of the people out there tell us that they believe that the South Vietnamese Army at this time is equal to the Korean troops in 1954. If they are, I don't think we will have to apologize too much for them. They are taking up their positions on the DMZ now.

They have been giving very good results from their actions. General Abrams thinks they are doing all right. I would prefer his judgment to anybody's judgment and I know.

THE SOVIET UNION

[2.] MR. REYNOLDS. Mr. President, you have always credited the Russians with a sincere desire for peace in Vietnam. Do you still hold to that view? If they really want peace, why don't they stop supplying the North Vietnamese?

THE PRESIDENT. Without going into your statements as to my views, I would say this: We are not sure just at this point of all that motivates the Chinese, or the Russians, or any of the other Communists who are supporting the North Vietnamese.

I don't think I could honestly tell you just what their motivations are. We have always hoped that they would like to see this war brought to an end. That has been their indication to us. Whether that would work out in the long run, I don't know.

MR. SCHERER. Mr. President, that brings us back to Glassboro and your conversations this summer.² How much of a factor in the restraint that we and the Russians seemed to show in the Middle East crisis was a product of the dialogue that you established with Mr. Kosygin at Glassboro?

THE PRESIDENT. I think that the Glassboro conference was a very useful conference. I am not sure that it really solved any of the problems of the Middle East. I think the situation in the Middle East is a very dangerous one.

I think we have made clear our viewpoint in my statement of June 19th,³ the five conditions that ought to enter into bringing about peace in that area. We stressed those to Mr. Kosygin at Glassboro. He understands them. He did not agree with them. But I think that the Soviet Union understands that we feel very strongly about this matter, that we do have definite views.

I think Ambassador Goldberg, at the United Nations, has made our position very clear. As a result of the action of the United Nations, in sending Ambassador Jarring⁴ there as a mediator, we are hopeful that the conditions I outlined on June 19th can be worked out and that a permanent solution can be found to that very difficult problem.

I would say it is one of our most dangerous situations, and one that is going to require the best tact, judgment, patience, and willingness on the part of all to find a solution.

THE UNITED STATES AND ISRAEL

[3.] MR. RATHER. Mr. President, do you consider that this country has the same kind

² See Items 279, 280, 282, 283.

³ See Item 272.

⁴ Gunner Jarring, Swedish Ambassador to the Soviet Union and United Nations mediator in the Middle East dispute.

of unwavering commitment to defend Israel against invasion as we have in South Vietnam?

THE PRESIDENT. We don't have a SEATO Treaty, if that is what you are asking. We have made clear our very definite interest in Israel, and our desire to preserve peace in that area of the world by many means. But we do not have a mutual security treaty with them, as we do in Southeast Asia.

U.S.-SOVIET RELATIONS

[4.] MR. REYNOLDS. Mr. President, if we might come back for just a moment to the question of our relations with the Soviet Union, it's often said that one of the most tragic consequences of the war in South Vietnam is the setback in American-Soviet relations. Do you agree with that? Do you think we are making progress in getting along?

THE PRESIDENT. Well, there are a good many things said, Mr. Reynolds, that people have to take with a grain of salt. First, they ought to look at the sources of these statements.

I have tried to analyze our position in the world with other nations. We do regret that we don't see everything alike with the Soviet Union or other nations. We hope that there wouldn't be this tension and these strains that frequently are in evidence. Now, we don't say that everything is 100 percent all right, because we have very definite and very strong differences of opinion and philosophy.

But if you are asking me if the tension exists today that existed when the Berlin Wall went up, the answer is no.

Now, we can understand the Soviet Union's inhibitions and the problems they have as long as Vietnam is taking place. They are called upon to support their Com-

munist brother, and they are supporting him in a limited way with some equipment. We wish that were not so.

We would hope that they would exercise their duties and their responsibilities as co-chairmen and take some leadership and try to bring this war to an end.

But we don't think that things are as tense, or as serious, or as dangerous as they were when the Berlin Wall went up, in the Cuban missile crisis, or following Mr. Kennedy's visit with Mr. Khrushchev at Vienna.

THE UNITED STATES AND EUROPE

[5.] MR. SCHERER. Mr. President, moving now to Europe, what about the complaint of Europe that our preoccupation with Vietnam has caused United States relations with Europe to take a back seat?

THE PRESIDENT. I don't find that complaint in Europe. I find it in Georgetown among a few columnists generally.

The European leaders—we are having very frequent exchanges with them generally. Prime Minister Wilson will be here early in February. He has been here several times.

We have been to Germany, and Mr. Kiesinger and ahead of him Mr. Erhard, and ahead of him Mr. Adenauer have been here.

Many of the Scandinavian leaders have come here.

The Dutch leaders have come here.

This year in Europe we have had a very long agenda that has produced what we think are very excellent results. We have just concluded an agreement on the Kennedy Round, which involved very far-reaching trade concessions. We think it will stand as a monument to the relationship of the people of Europe and the people of the United States, and very much to both of their advantages.

We had a challenge of NATO and Gen-

eral de Gaulle asked us to get out of France. We sat down with the other 14 members of NATO, the other European nations, and we looked at our problem. We decided that we would go to Belgium. Thirteen of those nations joined the United States and 14 of us went there.

NATO is now intact, as solid as it can be, unified. Secretary Rusk has just returned from very successful meetings with them.

So the challenge to NATO has been rebuffed. The difficulties of the Kennedy Round have been solved. The frequent predictions that the Germans would reduce their troop strength 60,000 and we would bring our divisions back from Europe—those matters have been worked out.

We are working feverishly every day trying to bring about a nonproliferation agreement and we are making headway.

So I think, if you take the results of this year's efforts in Europe, that most European statesmen who have been engaged in those efforts would think we have been quite successful and probably more successful than any other period. And I do not see that we have either ignored them or neglected them.

DOMESTIC VIOLENCE

[6.] MR. REYNOLDS. Mr. President, I wonder if we might turn to matters at home, sir.

The civil rights movement in this country was founded and thrived on the principle of nonviolence. Now all that seems to be changing. There are people openly advocating violence. We had violence last summer. What is your explanation for these riots, sir? What happened?

THE PRESIDENT. I would say that not all of it is changing. I would say that all through our history, as these changes oc-

curred, there has been violence connected with them.

We found that true in World War I. We found that true in World War II. We had a riot in Detroit during President Roosevelt's administration where he had to send out troops that compared very much to the same one we had there this year.

We have this unrest. We have this uncertainty. We have this desire of people who have been held down all these years to rise up and try to acquire, quickly, what has been denied them so unjustly so long.

We have more violence than we want, and more than we should have, more than we are going to be able to tolerate. But I don't think that represents all the country at all. I think that represents a very small minority.

I think our big problem is to get at the causes of these riots. I think that some of the causes are the hope of the people themselves. They don't have jobs. They want jobs. So we are going to have to provide jobs.

There are some half-million unemployed, hard-core unemployed, in our principal cities. We just have to go and find jobs for them.

I am going to call in the businessmen of America and say one of two things has to happen: You have to help me go out here and find jobs for these people, or we are going to have to find jobs in the Government for them and offer every one of them a job. I think that is one thing that could be done. I think that will have to be done, as expensive as it is.

Second, I think we will have to do something about the housing situation. People live in filth, in dilapidated houses. More new housing ought to be built and has to be built. We have to find places to build that housing.

I have tried to pass legislation that I thought would be helpful, such as the open housing bill. I have tried to encourage the Congress to take action on model cities and

on rent supplements. We have made progress, although not as much as we would like. So, we are going to have to accelerate and step up rebuilding our cities so we can have decent housing.

In the field of education, education has been denied to the poor on an equal basis for many years. The poor children haven't had the advantages because of lack of transportation, because of the economic situation in their family, because of a lot of reasons—their own health conditions.

So, they haven't had the education. And because of discrimination, they haven't had the educational opportunities that the other children have had.

So we are fast correcting those. We have tripled our education program in 3 years, and the poor have been the primary beneficiaries. We are spending three times as much on health today as we were 4 years ago, and the poor are the primary beneficiaries of Medicare and Medicaid. They can have their hospital bills paid now. They can have their doctors paid now.

As a result, our infant mortality rate is going down. As a result, our death rate is going down. We have made great progress with health and education. They are important things.

So I would say jobs, health, education, and housing are all contributing to this general dissatisfaction that results in violence on occasions, and we have to accelerate our efforts there. We have to appeal to these people to keep their feelings within bounds and keep them lawful, because every person in this country must obey the law of this country, and there is no situation that justifies your violating the law.

MR. RATHER. Mr. President, for those Americans, especially Negroes, who live in crowded areas, live in poverty, with no education, no jobs, and seemingly no help,

why not follow an extremist? Why not revolt?

THE PRESIDENT. I told you the reasons why: because revolting and violence are unlawful. It is not going to be allowed. It doesn't solve the problem. It is not the answer to the conditions that exist.

The answer is jobs. The answer is education. The answer is health. Now, if we refuse to give those answers, people are going to lose hope, and when they do, it is pretty difficult to get them to be as reasonable as we think they should be.

But there is every reason why they should not. Violence is not going to produce more jobs. Violence is not going to produce more education. Violating the law and taking the law into your own hands is not going to produce better health or better housing. It is going to produce anarchy. And that cannot be tolerated.

MR. RATHER. Some of these extremists, Mr. President, say, though, that anarchy is exactly what we need; that they want to tear down the fabric of this society.

THE PRESIDENT. I don't agree with the extremists and I hope you don't.

MR. SCHERER. Mr. President, what is your administration doing now, to see that we don't have another riot this summer?

THE PRESIDENT. I have outlined that: jobs, housing, education, health—all of these things, trying to get at these problems. We think that if we can have a program for the cities, like model cities, we think if we can have jobs, like neighborhood youth training and the job program we are working out, if we can find employment for all the hard core—we think that this will answer some of the causes of the riots.

MR. REYNOLDS. Mr. President, in the ghetto, I think they say that is just talk, white man's talk. What is your reaction to that?

THE PRESIDENT. You know what my reaction to it is.

MR. REYNOLDS. Isn't there this sense of despair, this growing estrangement between white and nonwhite?

THE PRESIDENT. What is your answer to it, Frank?

MR. REYNOLDS. Well, I would hope that—I don't know that my answer is necessarily the one, sir, that we want.

THE PRESIDENT. What is your answer, though, Frank?

MR. REYNOLDS. My answer is that it is not talk, and that there will be an attempt made. But can it come in time? I am thinking of these young—

THE PRESIDENT. If not, what? What is your solution? What do you recommend?

MR. REYNOLDS. What do you think you should do, sir?

THE PRESIDENT. You are not going to answer it now? You are not going to give us your recommendations or your thoughts?

MR. REYNOLDS. My recommendation is to get going as fast as we possibly can on all the programs that you have just mentioned.

THE PRESIDENT. That is what we are doing. We accept your recommendation and we will carry it out.

MR. REYNOLDS. Thank you, sir.

MR. SCHERER. Mr. President, if this situation is as serious as we all think it is, people say we are spending \$30 billion a year in Vietnam and why can't we spend \$30 billion a year at home. If you can't get programs such as you are talking about through in this Congress, how will you get them through in the future? How do we get a sense of urgency about it?

THE PRESIDENT. We hope that the Congress will, as these things develop, see the need of them. We think we have made progress. We couldn't get the model cities program authorized and funded 2 years ago,

but we did this year. We couldn't get rent supplements authorized and funded, but we have this year. We couldn't get the housing programs that we have underway now authorized and funded 2 years ago, but we have this year.

We are making progress. We can't correct it overnight. You can't take the errors of 100 years and solve them in 100 days.

We would like to do as much as we can. I am recommending a good deal more than the Congress is willing to do.

In the poverty field I recommended and urged, and asked every Cabinet member to join us in doing so—we urged the Congress to provide \$2.2 billion in funds for poverty. They cut it several hundred million dollars.

We have made recommendations for 40,000 rent supplement units, \$40 million. They cut it to \$10 million. I regret it. If I could issue an Executive order and vitiate it, and put my own program into effect, I would do it.

But we are moving in that direction. And we are going to do all we can to accelerate it and to escalate it.

THE YOUTH OF THE NATION

[7.] MR. RATHER. Mr. President, if I may, let's turn to the subject of youth. I think everyone expects youth to rebel and to be restless. But there seems to be an unusually large number of American youth at this particular point in history who feel alienated to the traditional American ideas of God, patriotism, and family. Do you sense this alienation? What can be done about it?

THE PRESIDENT. Yes, I sense it. I think we have that condition. And we are trying to meet it as best we know how. I have seen it several times in my lifetime.

I remember the days of the zoot-suiters in

World War II. I remember the doubters who thought all of our youth were going to the dogs because of the sitdown movements in some of the plants in our country at certain periods of our country. I remember the doubt expressed about our ability in World War II to take a bunch of beardless boys and resist Hitler's legions.

There have been some disappointments. But I have visited the campuses of this country. My Cabinet has gone and met with the young people of this country. We deal with young folks every day in the Peace Corps, in the poverty program, in the VISTA program, and in the job camps.

And I think it is a very small percentage that have given up, who have lost faith, who have deep questions about the future of the country and of themselves.

We have more than 3 million young people serving in uniform. I hear from about 100 of them every day. They don't get the attention that you television people give these exhibitionists. They don't have anyone to make signs for them and parade, get their pictures in the papers. They are just there from daylight to dark, fighting for freedom and liberty, and willing to die for it. They are a pretty large number, comparatively speaking.

I doubt that there is anything like that many hippies, or I doubt that there are that many disillusioned people. If you added them all up and put them in one unit, I think that they would make a very small percentage.

And I think anyone who thinks the youth of the country is going to the dogs, or implies it, better take another look at it. I have just gone through two weddings this year, and I have been associated with a lot of young people. And the kind of young people I see, whom I hear, who write me, are not the little group that you all can ferret out up

here at some park or some place—that have nothing to do but carry a sign around on their shoulders and try to obstruct someone else from getting to a place or try to howl them down after they get there.

I think we have young people who are terribly upset at what is going on. I know they hate war. We all hate war. But I think there is a very small percent who are going to take these extreme means and going to employ these extreme ways to express this lack of confidence in their future and in their country.

THE DISSENTERS AND THE DEMONSTRATORS

[8.] MR. SCHERER. Mr. President, how much of an inhibition does it give you, as you go about the country, to have to face these dissenters and demonstrators? Do you feel you can go where you want to go?

THE PRESIDENT. Yes, and do.

MR. SCHERER. Do you think that will be true all through next year?

THE PRESIDENT. Yes. I think there has been a very subtle effort made by a few politicians to suggest that it would be difficult for the President to travel; it would be very dangerous. Probably the wish was father to the thought. I think there has been some indication that certain organized groups would try to bring embarrassment to the Secretary of State by not letting him talk, or to the Vice President by interrupting his talk.

But every time that has happened—and it has been encouraged some by some of the political groups, because we have followed them and have seen that that has happened—the people have been resounding in their disapproval.

While we all recognize dissent, and we expect it, and we treat it respectfully, we listen to it, we don't think that dissent should

be turned into hooliganism, and we don't think because a person has a right to dissent that—as a great Justice one time said—you have a right to holler fire in a crowded theater, or that you have the right to tear a speaker's necktie off, or to put your hand over his mouth and prevent him from speaking.

We think the dissent should be within the law, and within the Constitution. We respect it when it is.

But if they are going to use stormtrooper tactics, it will be dealt with and will be dealt with properly.

If they are going to encourage folks to bring bodily harm to a President, or to any other official, that is sinking very low, and we don't think the people want to hear much like that, either over the television in the form of suggestion, or by some who are sent to these campuses to incite folks.

MR. REYNOLDS. Mr. President, who are these people who are encouraging this sort of thing? Do you see an element of subversion in it?

THE PRESIDENT. You see them on every campus, on your television every night. They are representatives of various groups. I don't want to get personal and I don't want to give them advertisement, but if you are interested just turn on ABC tonight and look at the newscast. A good part of every newscast you have will have some of these folks who are encouraging the dissent, appealing to them. They will be parading. They will have their signs. They will be charging us with murder, and this and that, because we are trying to carry out our obligations and our treaty commitments and protect that flag.

MR. REYNOLDS. You feel, sir, apparently, that the press, the television, radio, the whole works, gives a disproportionate share of attention to this?

THE PRESIDENT. No, I didn't say that. I said they report it. And if you want to see it, it is there for you to see it. I didn't say anything about disproportionate.

MR. REYNOLDS. Do you think we do, sir?

THE PRESIDENT. Well, I think that is a matter for your judgment. I don't think it is up to the President to be making up your newscasts.

MR. RATHER. Mr. President, you have said, I think, Mr. President, that you welcome responsible dissent. For those Americans who do strongly dissent from your war policy, but who want to be responsible and yet want to be effective, what can you recommend? What can they do?

THE PRESIDENT. Well, in the first place, I am not in the business of recommending their program for them. I have enough problems with my own program.

But we do have a way of people in this country expressing their viewpoint, giving out interviews, making speeches, having picketing. I would say generally speaking, Mr. Rather, being lawful, abiding by the law of the land, doing whatever the law will permit them to do.

I don't think you have to be a law violator in the name of the first amendment. I don't think you are justified in being a law violator in order to have your right of free speech.

I think that the people who ought to want to follow the law and the Constitution the most are the dissenters themselves, because it is that law and that Constitution which gives them their right to dissent and protects that right.

I am amazed that some of these so-called liberal folks who reserve for themselves the right to speak long, loud, and freely, but when the opposition views are expressed, they try to drown it out with catcalls, eggs, or tomatoes.

I don't understand that kind of behavior.

MR. RATHER. Some of these dissenters say that the only way they can get your attention is to do something unlawful.

THE PRESIDENT. I am not familiar with that. Who says that?

MR. RATHER. There is Mr. Dellinger,⁵ for one, who led the march on the Pentagon, who said there was no way to get the attention of the establishment—that is, the Government.

THE PRESIDENT. I don't think that is correct at all. We read the papers, we see the television, we read our correspondence. We spend a good deal more time on that than we do out viewing what he is saying or doing at the Pentagon.

THE PRESIDENTIAL CAMPAIGN

[9.] MR. SCHERER. Mr. President, 1968 will soon be upon us. I am wondering as you sit here in your rocking chair whether you could tell us, when you sit down to make your decision about running again, what are the factors you are going to weigh?

THE PRESIDENT. I haven't done that, Ray. I think in due time I will cross that bridge. Until then, I don't want to speculate about it.

MR. SCHERER. Not even the factors?

THE PRESIDENT. Until I do that, I am not going to speculate about it.

MR. REYNOLDS. Mr. President, you often say that the President has plenty of advice. Regardless of when you intend to leave this office, and we know you are not going to tell us that, what advice would you give to the man who does succeed you?

THE PRESIDENT. Well, I will do that when I leave it.

MR. RATHER. Mr. President, I know that

with the campaign coming up you don't want to get into politics too much, but I would be remiss in my duties as a reporter if I didn't ask you, regardless of who the Democratic candidate is in 1968, what effect do you think the candidacy of Senator McCarthy and the position of Senator Robert Kennedy will have on the Democratic Party?

THE PRESIDENT. I just don't know. I don't know what the effect of the Kennedy-McCarthy movement is having in the country. I am not a reporter. I haven't followed it. I am not privileged to all the conversations that may have taken place.

I just observe they have had some meetings and some discussions. I do know of the interest of both of them in the Presidency and the ambition of both of them. I see that reflected from time to time.

But just what they are prepared to do, how they are going to do it, whether they are going to do it in concert, or what will be the effect upon the American people of these maneuverings, I am not prepared to say.

PRESIDENT DE GAULLE AND FRANCE

[10.] MR. RATHER. Mr. President, French President de Gaulle, in light of his picking at NATO, his attacks on the dollar, and now even training of Russian troops, do you consider him a friend or an enemy of this country?

THE PRESIDENT. I believe that the French people have an understanding, an interest, and affection for the American people, and I think it is greatly reciprocated.

I am sorry that the relationship between the President and Mr. de Gaulle is not a closer one and that we don't see matters alike any more often than we do. We have tried to do everything that we know to do to minimize the differences that exist in the

⁵ David Dellinger, editor of *Liberation* magazine, who led the peace demonstration at the Pentagon in October (see Item 441).

leadership of the two governments. We strongly feel that the people of the two countries have a long history of friendship and we are determined to preserve that.

We are also determined to minimize our differences and, from my part, to do nothing to unjustly or unduly provoke the French Government.

MR. RATHER. To get precisely to the point about General de Gaulle as apart from the French people—

THE PRESIDENT. I got precisely to the point. I don't want to do anything to accentuate, aggravate, or contribute to emphasizing the differences that we have and straining the relations.

I think basically our people are friendly and I am going to do all I can to keep them friendly.

"THE TRUST OF THE PEOPLE"

[11.] MR. SCHERER. Mr. President, the other day one of the elder statesmen in our business gave it as his view that unless you regained the trust of the people—I think that is the way he put it—you could not effectively govern. How does that proposition strike you?

THE PRESIDENT. I think you must have the trust of the people. I feel we do have the trust of the people. I do think we have the support of the people. The people in every election have had a chance to express themselves, in a national election, and have given us a majority vote.

In 1964, the last election, we got 61 per cent of the votes, the highest percentage any President ever obtained. I am not talking about some individual poll. In the last congressional election, we had a majority in both House and Senate.

Now we lost some of our majority. We lost some of our support. I don't think there

is any question about that. In a preelection year you will always do that.

We looked ahead of 1964 when they were having the San Francisco convention. I think a great many people toyed with the idea of joining or voting in the opposition party until they had the results of the convention, until they saw what would happen if you elected a Republican, and who would be brought into office, the kind of government you would have, and the kind of policies you would have.

I think there is some uncertainty in the country. I think there is some division in the country. I don't think that the opposition is in the majority and I don't think they will be on election day. But I don't discount it, and I don't ignore it.

THE WORLD OF THE FUTURE

[12.] MR. SCHERER. As you look ahead to the world that your grandson is going to grow up in, what kind of a world would you like that to be?

THE PRESIDENT. I would hope that it would be a more knowledgeable world and a better educated world. There are four people out of every 10 today who cannot read "cat," who cannot spell "dog," who cannot recognize the printed word "mother." I would like to see every boy and girl who is born in the world have all the education that he or she can take.

We are making great gains in that direction in this country. I would like to see other nations make great gains. I would like to see an enlightened program of family planning available to all the peoples of the world.

I would like to see the problem of food production faced up to and nations take the necessary steps to try to provide the food that they are going to need to support their populations.

I would like to see the miracles of health extended to all the peoples of the world as they were to the fellow who was operated on with the heart change the other day.

I know that the infant mortality rate is going down. I should like to see it reflected in all the 110 nations.

In short, I believe that our ancient enemies are ignorance and illiteracy, are disease and bigotry. I would like to see my descendants grow up in a world that is as educated as possible, as healthy as science will permit, as prepared to feed itself, and which certainly has sufficient conservation forces to permit enjoyable leisure for the people who work long and late.

And I think we are moving to that end.

THE ECONOMY

[13.] MR. RATHER. Mr. President, what do your experts tell you, and what is your best estimate, on the performance of the economy over the next few months, considering that you did not get the tax increase that you once called absolutely essential to the health of the economy?

THE PRESIDENT. It is very hard to predict what is ahead. The Secretary of the Treasury and the Council of Economic Advisers, and the Budget Director have made the best statements that they could to the Ways and Means Committee.

We think the business activity is going to pick up. We think there is going to be increased production. We think it is very essential that we have a tax bill.⁶

We look forward to continued prosperity. We have had 82 months of unparalleled prosperity in this country, longer than any other period, uninterrupted, and we want to

keep things that way.

We think the most important thing to us, from a domestic standpoint, is to provide more jobs, and we have added 6 million jobs in the last few years. We think that those jobs ought to have good pay, but that we shouldn't increase our wages or our profits or our dividends, beyond what the increased productivity justifies, so that we can maintain some restraint on prices.

And while we are not satisfied with the job we have done, we have done a better job than any other country and we are urging both business and labor to take that into consideration in their negotiations with each other.

COMMUNIST CHINA

[14.] MR. SCHERER. Mr. President, what about China? Many people, as they peer off into the midst of the future, see our future problem with China. If you could sit down with the rulers of China, what would you tell them about America's intentions toward them?

THE PRESIDENT. I have said to them in several public statements that we hope that they can conduct themselves in such a way as will permit them to join the family of nations and that we can learn to live in harmony with each other.

We have no desire to be enemies of any nation in the world. We believe that it is possible, over the years, for them to develop a better understanding of the world in which they live.

We think there are some very important things taking place right in China today that will contribute to, we hope, a better understanding and a more moderate approach to their neighbors in the world.

We have observed their failures in Africa, and in Latin America, and in Southeast Asia, where they have undertaken aggressive

⁶ The Revenue and Expenditure Control Act of 1968 was approved by the President on June 28, 1968 (Public Law 90-364, 82 Stat. 251).

steps that have resulted in failure for them. And we hope they will profit by these experiences. We believe they will.

We don't know all that we would like to know about what is going on in China. It is a rather closed society and we don't have all the information that we would like to have. But we are hopeful and we believe that over a period of time, that the opportunity exists for them to gain a better understanding of the other peoples of the world and thus be able to live more harmoniously with them.

SECRETARY McNAMARA

[15.] MR. REYNOLDS. Mr. President, there was quite a dust-up in this town recently, perhaps more here than elsewhere, about the resignation of Secretary McNamara. Is there anything more you can tell us about it?

THE PRESIDENT. No. I can only repeat what Secretary McNamara said and what I have said.

Secretary McNamara has been Secretary of Defense longer than any other man. I think he has been the best Secretary of Defense that we have ever had. I hate to see him leave as Secretary of Defense.

I take great satisfaction in the contribution that Mr. McNamara has made to the Government. He is only on sabbatical leave. He is not going to be very far away from here. And on anything that is remotely connected with the best interests of the world, that the World Bank is interested in, we will be working very close together.

I do not consider that I have lost his services, or the world has lost his talents, or that I have lost a friend in any way. I think that instead of building a great machine at the Pentagon for the purpose of defending liberty and freedom, that he will be busy at the World Bank in the constructive pur-

pose of building the economies and bettering humanity in these very nations that we are trying to defend. And I look forward with a great deal of pleasure to working very closely with him.

PRIORITY PROGRAMS IN 1968

[16.] MR. RATHER. Mr. President, looking ahead to next year, this will be the final year of this term of your Presidency, what are your priorities, particularly in regards to Congress? Can you get through, do you feel, any more of your Great Society program, any more welfare programs?

THE PRESIDENT. We will have detailed recommendations in our State of the Union in connection with the problems the Nation faces. There are many unresolved problems.

There will be substantial recommendations to the next Congress. There have been substantial achievements in this one.

We didn't get everything we wanted at all. We never have. But we had a good Congress. We didn't have as good a Congress as we had in the 89th Congress. We didn't pass as many substantive measures and they didn't reach as far as the others. They were curtailed some because that was the mood of the Congress. And on a good many measures they were able to reduce our proposals.

They didn't destroy model cities. They crippled it. They cut it by several hundred million. They didn't destroy rent supplements, but they cut it from \$40 million to \$10 million. They didn't destroy the rat bill. They knocked it out for a while and staggered it, but after the Senate worked on it, we approved it. They did not recommit a good many of the bills, but they reduced them.

They did not wipe out poverty, but they reduced it from \$2.2 billion—several hundred million to \$1.7 billion something.

So those are the things that you have to face up to. I am not saying ugly things about the individuals. Those men think they are right. They don't want to take some of these new programs. They don't want to fund model cities, rent supplements, or face up to the urban requirements and what I think are 20th century requirements.

And I understand their philosophy. I have understood it for 35 years. They frequently are the preservers of stagnation. And they want to keep things as they are. They don't want to move forward.

Now, I came into the executive branch with a man who said, "Let's get the country moving again." Now we have the country moving again and we want to keep it moving. We are going to keep it moving if we can get the Congress support.

And while we didn't get them to support us every time we wanted to, we did

move forward and we hope the next session will be a productive one, too.

I am going to appeal to every Republican in an election year to come in and do what is best for his country. And if he does that, without regard to how it might cripple the President, without regard to the politics of the year, then I think we will have a good Congress.

I am going to do what I think is best for my country, at home and abroad, without regard to what effect it has on my future. And if they will do the same thing, we will have a good government, a good country, and then we can let the election take care of itself. And I think we will have a good election.

Reporters: Thank you, Mr. President.

NOTE: The joint interview was held at 10:30 a.m. on December 18, 1967, in the President's office at the White House. The program was carried by the three networks at 10 p.m. on December 19.

555 The President's Remarks Upon Arrival in Honolulu at the Beginning of His Round-the-World Trip.

December 19, 1967

Governor Burns, Senator Fong, Mrs. Inouye, Lieutenant Governor Gill, Mayor Blaisdell, General Ryan, Governor Hickel, ladies and gentlemen:

I am very glad you have come out here in this inclement weather to greet us on our way "down under."

Geographically, you are the closest American State to Australia.

You understand—as Australians understand—the web of ties that makes the Pacific nations one family.

You knew, before most of your fellow countrymen knew, that the Pacific is an avenue—not a barrier.

Long ago you knew how important it was to have brave friends in the Pacific—friends

who would share the burdens and the opportunities of freedom.

America had such friends in Australia in 1941—when the clouds of war rose over Pearl Harbor.

We have such friends in Australia now, when a new threat to peace looms over all of Asia.

Tragically, one of our best Australian friends has fallen. A leader in the prime of his life has been taken from his countrymen—and from us, his friends and partners. Harold Holt was a statesman who believed that Australia's destiny was bound up with that of her neighbors in the Pacific.

In the tradition of his great predecessor, Sir Robert Menzies, Harold Holt called on

his people to meet the responsibilities that freedom always brings. He asked them to join with the people of South Vietnam, with the people of the United States, and with five other nations, to turn back the new aggressor in Asia. His people responded as Australians always have responded in the hour of need. Their men are with us in battle at this very hour standing shoulder to shoulder and side by side with ours.

Harold Holt's vision of Asia—and of Australia's role in Asia—was not limited to the battlefield. The end he sought was not military conquest. It was the building of a new Asia, where nations with a common interest in peace might help one another build the foundations of peace: better lives for their people.

We mourn the loss of this good man, this brother in arms, this friend in the works of peace. What he was cannot be replaced—though what he built will always endure.

I am going many thousands of miles to join his countrymen, and leaders from all

over Asia and the Commonwealth, in paying tribute to Harold Holt. I carry with me the affection and admiration of the American people for the people of Australia. And I know that I carry your deep regret that your fellow citizen of the Pacific has been taken from us—at a critical hour, when the work he shared with us is beginning to bear fruit.

Governor Burns, my dear friend, and my friends of Hawaii, all of you, we thank you deeply for coming here this evening in this rain to join with us on our journey.

Thank you and good night.

NOTE: The President spoke at 6:15 p.m. at Honolulu International Airport. In his opening words he referred to Governor John A. Burns, Senator Hiram L. Fong, Mrs. Daniel K. Inouye, wife of Senator Inouye, and Lt. Gov. Thomas P. Gill, all of Hawaii, and to Mayor Neal S. Blaisdell of Honolulu, Gen. John D. Ryan, Commander, Pacific Air Forces, and Governor Walter J. Hickel of Alaska. During his remarks the President referred to Harold Holt, former Prime Minister of Australia who was presumed drowned on December 18, 1967 (see Item 550).

556 Statement by the President After Signing Joint Resolution Providing for Continuing Appropriations, Fiscal Year 1968. *December 19, 1967*

I HAVE SIGNED H.J. Res. 888—serving notice to the Nation that we intend to maintain the health of our economy; serving notice to the world that we intend to preserve the strength of our dollar.

This resolution carries out my request to the Congress that I be authorized and directed to cut Government spending this year by some \$4.3 billion—\$2.5 billion over and above the expenditure reductions already made by the Congress.

It requires every civilian agency to reduce its budgeted obligations by an amount equal to 2 percent of payroll, plus 10 percent of

other controllable obligations.

It provides for a reduction in the obligations of the Defense Department by an amount equal to 10 percent of non-Vietnam programs.

Although many speeches are made about the desirability of cutting expenditures, they are too frequently couched in generalities and not specifics. They too often fail to face the real problem of what, where, and how to cut. This resolution supplies an essential bridge between the generalities and the specifics.

After all the talk about economizing—by Democrats and Republicans alike—after all

the rhetoric and all the actions by the appropriations committees and all the votes on the appropriation bills, the Congress after 11 months in session cut only \$1.8 billion in expenditures from the budget.

This was clearly not enough. It was not enough in the light of sharp changes in our fiscal situation. It was not enough in the absence of a tax bill that I had recommended.

On the advice of my own fiscal advisers, and after conferences with the House and Senate committee chairmen, we agreed that a \$4.3 billion total expenditure reduction was required.

The administration decided, moreover, that these reductions should be made in partnership with the Congress. While the President has the authority to reduce spending as he deems necessary, I had no desire to undo the work the Congress had already done on the appropriation bills. This resolution represents our determination to work together to reduce Federal spending in a fair, effective, and efficient way.

These reductions will not be easy to make. Those who call for budget cutting find it easy to talk in terms of dollars and cents. But a President must act—and act in terms of people. Some important public services will

have to be cut below the level our citizens would prefer.

Yet, it is vital to the health of our economy that we act.

“Less desirable” spending is a difficult term to define—especially in a budget that was tight when I submitted it. And what is “less desirable” to one citizen—or his Congressman—is “vital” to another. Nevertheless, I pledge that my Cabinet and I will enforce these cuts with fairness and compassion.

But let us be clear about this: This resolution I have signed today represents only half of the job that is before us. The Congress has still not acted on the temporary tax measures I have recommended to the Congress. Every day’s delay increases the cruel tax that inflation and rising interest rates impose on every American family.

In cutting expenditures by some \$4.3 billion, we have faced up to our responsibility. I hope the Congress will complete the job by making its first order of business next January the enactment of a tax bill that will fairly and equitably apportion the costs of government in a strong, growing nation and a troubled world.

NOTE: As enacted, H.J. Res. 888, approved December 18, 1967, is Public Law 90-218 (81 Stat. 662).

557 Statement by the President on the United Nations Agreement for the Rescue and Return of Astronauts and Space Objects. *December 19, 1967*

I AM GRATIFIED that the United Nations General Assembly has just endorsed an “Agreement on the Rescue of Astronauts, the Return of Astronauts and the Return of Objects Launched into Outer Space.”

The subject of assistance and return has been discussed at meetings of the U.N. Outer Space Committee since 1962. The agreement

would implement rights and obligations of the Outer Space Treaty. The proposed new agreement would require that parties to the treaty shall

—Immediately notify the appropriate authorities if they receive information that astronauts have accidentally landed or are in distress,

- Immediately take all possible steps to rescue astronauts who have accidentally landed on their territory and render them all necessary assistance,
- If necessary and if they are in a position to do so, extend assistance in search and rescue operations for astronauts who have alighted on the high seas,
- Safely and promptly return astronauts who have landed either on their territory or on the high seas, and
- Notify the appropriate authorities of space objects which have come down on their territory or on the high seas and, upon request, take steps to recover and return such objects.

I hope that this agreement will help to ensure that nations will assist astronauts in the event of accident or emergency. The agreement would carry forward the purpose of this administration to promote international cooperation in the peaceful uses of outer space. On the occasion of the entry

into force of the Outer Space Treaty on October 10, I said:

"Whatever our disagreements here on earth, however long it may take to resolve our conflicts whose roots are buried centuries-deep in history, let us try to agree on this. Let us determine that the great space armadas of the future will go forth on voyages of peace—and will go forth in a spirit, not of national rivalry, but of peaceful cooperation and understanding.

"The next decade should increasingly become a partnership—not only between the Soviet Union and America, but among all nations under the sun and stars."

NOTE: The text of the United Nations General Assembly resolution (No. 2345) endorsing the agreement and the text of the "Agreement on the Rescue of Astronauts, the Return of Astronauts and the Return of Objects Launched Into Outer Space" are printed in the Department of State Bulletin (vol. 58, p. 85).

For the President's remarks on the occasion of the entry into force of the Outer Space Treaty, see Item 425.

The statement was released at Honolulu, Hawaii.

558 Statement by the President Upon Establishing a Task Force To Conduct a National Survey of Bridge Safety. *December 20, 1967*

[Released December 20, 1967. Dated December 19, 1967]

THE COLLAPSE of the Ohio River bridge on highway U.S. 35 connecting Gallipolis, Ohio, and Point Pleasant, W. Va., has brought tragedy to many American families. We are all shocked by this cruel tragedy and loss of life.

We must prevent similar tragedies elsewhere in the Nation. We must assure ourselves that other bridges will be safe for our people.

All Americans have a vital interest in ob-

taining answers to the questions raised by the collapse of the Ohio River bridge. That bridge and many others serve as vital links in our national highway and rail system.

I am therefore establishing a task force, chaired by the Secretary of Transportation, to begin immediately an intensive study of the Ohio River bridge tragedy and to conduct a national survey of bridge safety.

The Director of the Office of Emergency Planning and the Secretary of the Army will

serve with Secretary Boyd. I have directed all department and agency heads to cooperate fully with the task force.

I have asked Secretary Boyd to work closely with Governor Hulett Smith of West

Virginia and Governor James Rhodes of Ohio in the study of the Ohio River bridge, and with all the Governors in the national bridge safety study.

559 Remarks at the Airport in Pago Pago, American Samoa.
December 20, 1967

Governor and Mrs. Aspinall, my friends of Samoa:

We have enjoyed very much your entertainment this evening. We thank all of you for coming here and giving us this very warm greeting.

We prize very highly the friends that we have here. We recall very vividly when Mrs. Johnson and I dedicated the school you had been generous enough to name in her honor.

I remember many months ago first hearing of the great success you had made with your educational TV and how it excited the interest of many of our people in our country and in the Congress. I am glad to tell you now that we are trying to follow in your footsteps. Very shortly we will set up a public TV of our own.

What you are doing here in the way of schools and education is something we are very proud of, as we are proud of the new

hospital that you will shortly be dedicating.

Governor Aspinall referred to the contribution that your men are making in our armed services. We salute them and we thank them.

Our concern always will be with your health, with your education, and with your advancement.

We want each of you to know that we do care, that we are happy that you are making progress. We trust that the Good Lord will give us the strength and the leadership to permit us to continue to move ahead.

Thank you so much for your wonderful entertainment. I have enjoyed it. I appreciate your interest in coming here at this late hour. I thank you all very much.

NOTE: The President spoke at 12:30 a.m. at Tafuna International Airport in Pago Pago, American Samoa. In his opening words he referred to Owen S. Aspinall, Governor of American Samoa, and his wife.

560 Statement by the President Upon Signing Bill To Establish
the Federal Judicial Center. *December 20, 1967*

AMERICAN democracy is founded on the rule of law.

The judicial system is the source and substance of that rule.

Yet, all too often, the courts of America are congested, their dockets overcrowded,

their judges overworked.

In the Federal district courts, for example, even though we have created more judgeships:

—80,000 civil cases are pending. This is 23 percent more than 5 years ago.

—13,000 criminal cases are pending. This is an increase of more than 10 percent in just 1 year.

The cause of American justice cannot be served:

—When a plaintiff must wait years for a court to hear his claim.

—When a criminal case is delayed for a year or more.

These problems are familiar to every Chief Executive, to every Governor, to every mayor.

Overburdened judicial machinery cannot do the work of democracy.

Today, I sign a bill which, for the first time, will give us an instrument to assure an efficient, smooth-running judiciary—a system equal to the modern and changing society it must serve.

This bill establishes a Federal Judicial Center.

Through that Center we can summon the best experts to survey our problems and recommend solutions. We can make our Federal court system a model for all the courts in all the States and all the cities of America.

The Federal Judicial Center will help improve our courts. But this is part—but only

part—of the answer to crime in America.

I would be remiss—as President and as a concerned citizen—if I did not remind Congress that the whole system of criminal justice demands its urgent attention:

—The Safe Streets and Crime Control Act should be a first order of business of the new session. If any single piece of legislation is urgently needed, this is it. It is the most comprehensive anticrime legislation ever introduced. It will help every community strike at crime in the streets.

—The Firearms Control Act is designed to keep guns out of the wrong hands. It will put an end to the scandalous traffic in the deadly weapons of crime.

These and other bills to combat crime—like the Juvenile Delinquency Prevention Act—cry for early passage.

America must act quickly against crime. Continued inaction threatens the pocketbook, the peace, and the people of America.

NOTE: As enacted, the bill (H.R. 6111) is Public Law 90-219 (81 Stat. 664).

The Omnibus Crime Control and Safe Streets Act of 1968 was approved by the President on June 19, 1968 (Public Law 90-351, 82 Stat. 197).

The statement was also released in Canberra, Australia, on December 21, Australian time.

561 Remarks Upon Arrival in Canberra, Australia, To Attend Memorial Services for Prime Minister Holt. *December 21, 1967*

Lord Casey, Prime Minister McEwen, distinguished guests:

It is most gracious of all of you to meet us at this hour—and I thank you very much.

I come in sadness on a sorrowful mission—to pay my personal respects to a man who was my cherished friend and who led a nation which is the trusted friend of the United States.

I bring with me to all the people of Australia the sympathy of my countrymen, who

wish you to know that your loss is not a loss you bear alone.

The gathering together, here in Australia, of leaders from north and east and west tells much of the kind of man that Harold Holt was—of the kind of leadership he brought so freshly and so forcefully to the community of free nations—and of the kind of world he was helping to shape.

He was steady. He was courageous. In deed, as in word, he embodied the resolute-

ness of the people he led. He was there when he said he would be there. He did not move across the stage of world affairs seeking a way out or a way back from difficult and demanding duty—Harold Holt moved among us seeking to find and to open the way ahead toward a saner and safer world.

While his days were cruelly short, his vision was long. He saw that we had to begin, we had to begin now, to build a new community in Asia and in all the Pacific—a community of nations dedicated together to the works of security, the works of progress, and the fulfillment of all their peoples.

A sense of that community already is coming into being among us. In the years and generations ahead, that community will grow and flourish as common purpose and common endeavor become the common cause of the Pacific's peoples. Other men, and other leaders, will carry that cause forward in this and all the other lands that rim this great ocean. But history is going to reserve a very honored place in its memory for the name and the role of Harold Holt. At a critical time, it was he who saw the vision,

assumed the leadership, and imbued us all with a new spirit and a fuller faith.

Mr. Prime Minister, you have lost a leader. My country and I have lost a friend. The world has lost a very great man—but we have not lost and we shall not lose his vision and his inspiration.

This morning, the hearts of my people in America go especially to Mrs. Holt and to the members of the family in their hours of sorrow.

We wanted very much to be with you during this trial.

NOTE: The President spoke at 4:40 a.m. at Fairbairn Royal Australian Air Force Base, Canberra, Australia. In his opening words he referred to Richard G. Baron Casey, Governor General of Australia, and John McEwen, Prime Minister of Australia. Preceding the President's remarks, Prime Minister McEwen greeted him as follows:

It is with great sadness in all our hearts that you come to Australia. But it is for me, sir, speaking for my Government and for the Australian people, to say what a tremendous tribute you pay to our colleague Harold Holt, your friend Harold Holt, your associate Harold Holt, in making this tremendous journey across the world to come to Australia to pay your tribute to Harold Holt.

For this, sir, I thank you for myself, for my Government, and for every Australian.

562 Joint Statement Following Discussions in Canberra With Prime Minister McEwen of Australia. *December 21, 1967*

THE PRESIDENT and the Prime Minister took the opportunity this morning, both in the Prime Minister's office and in a wider meeting in the Cabinet room, to exchange views on a range of current matters. As was made clear in advance, the meeting took the form of conversations about these matters rather than a formal conference.

Those present in the Cabinet room included the United States Ambassador (Mr. Clark), Mr. William Bundy, and Mr. Walt Rostow, and on the Australian side the

Treasurer (Mr. McMahon), the Minister for External Affairs (Mr. Hasluck), the Minister for Defense (Mr. Fairhall), and the Leader of the Government in the Senate (Senator Gorton).

The principal topic touched on by the President and the Prime Minister and his colleagues was Vietnam. The President presented for the information of the Australian Ministers an account of the present military situation and political and economic development programme in Vietnam. The Prime Minister assured the

President, as he had yesterday assured the Australian people, that there will be no change in Australia's commitment to stay steadfast with the Republic of Vietnam and

the United States and with other Allies in Vietnam until a just peace is won.

NOTE: The joint statement was released at Canberra, Australia.

563 Joint Statement Following Discussions in Canberra With President Pak of Korea. *December 21, 1967*

PRESIDENT Pak Chung Hee of the Republic of Korea and President Lyndon B. Johnson of the USA met for informal private discussions at lunch today. Members of their governments and staffs were present.

President Pak described the agent and sabotage activities being conducted against his country by the regime in North Korea, and the measures being taken to ensure that this threat continued to be dealt with effectively.

President Pak also conveyed the thanks of his government for U.S. emergency food assistance to meet the drought crisis of recent

months in Korea, and for the continuing economic development assistance being provided. He described the economic gains that the Republic of Korea continued to make at high growth rates.

The two Presidents exchanged views on all aspects of the Vietnam situation, reaffirming their respective policies of strong and unswerving support for the independence of South Vietnam and the freedom of its people to determine their future without external interference.

NOTE: The joint statement was released at Canberra, Australia.

564 Joint Statement Following Discussions in Canberra With President Thieu of Vietnam. *December 21, 1967*

PRESIDENT Nguyen Van Thieu of the Republic of Vietnam and President Lyndon B. Johnson of the United States held an informal working dinner this evening, both being present in Canberra for the memorial service for the late Prime Minister Harold Holt.

There was a full exchange of views on all aspects of South Vietnam's struggle to defend its freedom from external force.

The military situation was reviewed and found to show good progress.

Progress was also noted in the work of pacification and of economic reconstruction with the intention that this could be speeded up in the coming months.

President Johnson congratulated President Thieu on the completion of a constitution, the holding of successful national elections, and the installation of a constitutional government.

It was recognized that many problems remained to be overcome and President Thieu outlined the plans of his government to deal with these problems along the lines of his inaugural speech and the later program presented to the people of South Vietnam by Prime Minister Loc.

Both Presidents agreed that their objective remained an honorable and secure peace in accordance with the basic statement of the South Vietnamese position contained in the

Manila communiqué of October 1966 and supported by the other participants. They regretted that there was no sign that North Vietnam was prepared to take any of the many avenues to peace that had been opened. They agreed that in these circumstances there was no alternative to continuing appropriate military actions.

President Thieu once again explained his government's policy of reconciliation enunciated at Honolulu in February 1966. In the light of elections which subsequently have taken place, he noted that the Government of Vietnam is now prepared to grant full rights of citizenship to those now fighting against the government who are prepared to accept constitutional processes and to live at peace under the constitutionally elected government.

President Thieu likewise reaffirmed a willingness to discuss relevant matters with any individuals now associated with the so-called National Liberation Front while making clear that his government could not regard the Front as an independent organization in any sense. He noted that it was not useful to attempt constructive discussions with any elements in South Vietnam committed to violent methods to obtain their political ends. Noting press comment on President John-

son's five points as stated in his television broadcast of December 20, President Thieu affirmed that they were fully consistent with a policy on which the Government of Vietnam and the Government of the United States have long agreed.

President Johnson stated the intent of the United States to continue its support for this policy of national reconciliation.

Both Presidents agreed that the basic principle involved was the right of the South Vietnamese people to determine their own future through democratic and constitutional processes noted in the principle of one man-one vote.

They further agreed that the removal of external interference and the acceptance of this principle by all citizens of South Vietnam were fundamental elements in an enduring and honorable peace in South Vietnam. They agreed that these elements were totally consistent with the spirit and essential terms of the Geneva Agreements of 1954 and the Geneva Agreements of 1962 respecting Laos.

NOTE: For the President's television broadcast of December 19 (December 20, Australian time), see Item 554.

The joint statement was released at Canberra, Australia.

565 Remarks to a Group of American Combat Pilots at the Royal Thai Air Force Base, Khorat, Thailand. *December 23, 1967*

Gentlemen:

I apologize for coming so early. I am deeply moved by your welcome—and I thank all of you very much.

On yesterday, it was my sad duty to cross the Pacific to the capital of a great and faithful ally to pay my last respects to a man who was my friend—and your friend, too—the late Prime Minister of Australia, Harold

Holt. As I said to his countrymen, Harold Holt was courageous and he was steadfast—he was there when he said he would be there—and that is the kind of leader the cause of freedom requires.

On tomorrow, I will return to Washington, but I could not come so near without coming on here—to be with all of you, even for a very short time. I know that, at this

season of the year especially, I bring with me the love of your families and the affection of your friends who are thinking of you, who are all praying for your safekeeping every waking hour. I bring with me, also, the gratitude of the Nation you serve so honorably, so loyally, and so well.

But I come to this American Air Force base—on the soil of a gallant and independent nation—to express to each of you the great respect, the admiration, and the abiding affection held for you by your Commander in Chief. Our Nation has never been more ably or honorably served than by all the men who are serving here.

I especially want to tell you of the very great importance of what all of you are doing to shorten the war.

In the history of air power, no such difficult set of tasks has ever been assigned as those assigned to you and those assigned to your comrades in the Army, the Navy, and the Marines. Guerrilla combat provides no easy targets. That is why aggressors—here as elsewhere—have been tempted to choose guerrilla tactics as the means of their aggression. Yet here, for the first time, air power is actually depriving the aggressor of his advantage.

Through the use of air power, a mere handful of you men—as military forces are really reckoned—are pinning down several hundred thousand—more than half a million—North Vietnamese. You are increasing the cost of infiltration. You are imposing a very high rate of attrition when the enemy is engaged—and you are giving him no rest when he withdraws. Air power is providing the mobility which meets and matches the stealth of an enemy whose tactics are based on sudden, hit-and-run attacks.

Working with the Vietnamese and our other fighting allies, we are defeating this

aggression. We are doing it with a proportion of forces at least half that usually required to cope with a guerrilla enemy of such size. The use we are making of air power—in all its forms—is a major reason the plans of the enemy are now doomed to complete failure.

It is a factor of utmost importance to the future of the peace of Asia—and for that matter, the peace of the entire world—that aggressors never again will be able to assume that aggression through cruel, brutal, and sadistic wars of national liberation will ever be either economic or successful.

Air power is denying aggression access to cheap success or to ultimate victory.

Whether men fly B-52's, light spotter planes, fighter bombers, helicopters, sea-and-air rescue, the tankers, or the reconnaissance—whether they serve in the cockpit or on the ground, in communications or in supply—whether in the Air Force, the Army, the Navy, or the Marines—your Commander in Chief salutes you, each of you, one and all. You are manifesting a courage and skill, a discipline and a restraint, an imagination and a patriotism which adds to our admiration and our esteem every day. I know—as I am sure you know—that your missions are bringing closer every week the time of peace for which we and all of your fellow countrymen pray each day.

I am glad I can be with you early this morning, as I am with you every single day of every month in spirit.

I cannot promise—and you above all others know that no man rightly could promise—that the way ahead will be easier or that our tasks we may soon lay down.

To this generation of Americans, much has been given. Of us all, much is asked. We shall know other great trials. We shall be faced by other great tasks. The life of free

men is never again going to be a life of ease. It is not ease, though, that we Americans seek. It is justice and peace that we seek, in a world where aggression is denied its victory and oppression is deprived of its dominion.

Let no man in any other land misread the spirit of America. The spirit of America is not to be read on the placards or the posters. It is a spirit that is manifest in the steadfastness and the resolve of a nation that is holding firmly and faithfully to its course.

No man can come here for even a short period and shake your hand or look you in the eye and have the slightest bit of doubt for a moment that America is going to hold

firm and that America is going to stay faithful throughout the course until an honorable peace is secured.

From our course, none of us shall ever turn.

So as I meet you and greet you and leave you this morning, I say on behalf of your families and your friends, on behalf of all the American people and our allies, and freedom- and liberty-loving peoples everywhere, God bless you, God keep you, every one of you.

We shall always be deeply in your debt. Thank you and good morning.

NOTE: The President spoke at 5:30 a.m. at the Royal Thai Air Force Base, Khorat, Thailand, to pilots of the 388th Tactical Fighter Wing.

566 Remarks to Senior Unit Commanders, Cam Ranh Bay, Vietnam. *December 23, 1967*

Gentlemen:

I don't want to take too much of your time. I came here this morning to tell you what your families and your loved ones would like to tell you; that is, we want you home for Christmas. We wish you could be there.

We are very proud that you are doing the job that you are doing. We know that no military force is any better than the man at the top. Everybody in our country, and the world, has great respect and confidence in General Westmoreland. He has assembled here this morning the men that make him what he is—the men who support him and the men who give him the substance and sustenance that permit him to do the job that he does. We are so very proud of you.

The leadership you have given has been unequalled. General Westmoreland tells me that the men whom you have produced and the men whom you lead have never been

excelled. That, in itself, ought to give you great satisfaction.

Your cause is just. Your objective is peace. The day is not far away when you will succeed. I wish I had things in as good shape at home as you have them here.

All I can say is, we have set our course. We are not going to yield. We are not going to shimmy. We are going to wind up with a peace with honor which all Americans seek. Then we will come home and spend a happy Christmas again with our loved ones.

My wish is that you could be with us. Your Commander in Chief is very, very proud of you. I wish I could personally show you that admiration and that affection I feel for the gallant men who lead the best military force ever put on the battlefield.

But please know that we are with you. We are for you. We will be there until the end.

Thank you very much.

NOTE: The President spoke at 9:18 a.m. at Cam Ranh Bay, Republic of Vietnam. During his remarks he referred to Gen. William C. Westmoreland, Com-

mander, United States Military Assistance Command, Vietnam.

As printed above, this item follows the text released by the White House Press Office.

567 Remarks to Service Personnel and Award of Distinguished Service Medal and Medal of Freedom to Military and Civilian Leaders, Cam Ranh Bay, Vietnam. *December 23, 1967*

Vice President Ky, General Westmoreland, Ambassador Bunker, distinguished leaders, gentlemen:

I hope that all of you will stand at ease.

This week I traveled halfway around the world to come to this section of the world to pay tribute to an old friend—the late Prime Minister Harold Holt of Australia.

I made that long trip for deeply personal reasons. Prime Minister Harold Holt was a close and a trusted friend.

I made that trip also for our country—and for you. For it was Harold Holt who led Australia into the fight for freedom that is taking place here in South Vietnam. It was he who asked his people to live up to their responsibilities and to meet them in Asia—exactly as you are meeting ours: with blood, with sweat, and with bravery.

Last night I sat and talked until after midnight with our gallant airmen in Thailand.

This is not the shortest route back to the White House from Australia—through Vietnam. But because it is almost Christmas and because my spirit would be here with you anyway, I had to come over here this morning.

I wish I could have brought you something more than just myself.

I wish I could have brought you some tangible symbol of the great pride that the American people feel in you, back home.

I wish I could have brought you some gift that would wrap up the care and the concern of your families and your loved ones.

All the debate that you read about can never obscure that pride. The slogans, the placards, and the signs cannot diminish the power of that love.

You will all know that personally when you put your feet back on America's shores—all of you, God willing.

I wish I could have brought you, too, some sign that the struggle that you are in will soon be over—some indication from the other side that he might be willing to let this suffering land finally heal its wounds.

I can bring you the assurance of what you have fought to achieve: The enemy cannot win, now, in Vietnam. He can harass, he can terrorize, he can inflict casualties—while taking far greater losses himself—but he just cannot win. You—each of you—have already seen to that.

I can bring you something more—news of a victory that is being won not on a battlefield but in the cities and the villages all over Asia. I was stimulated and glad to hear what distinguished Vice President Ky told me of the progress that they are making, and in the days ahead what they expect as a result of the planning and the efforts that the new government is making.

It is a victory of confidence. Because of what you and our gallant allies are doing, men throughout Asia are also beginning to feel confident that the future belongs to them—the future belongs to those who love peace.

The greater that confidence, the more

secure this vast region of the world will become—and the greater will be our children's chances to live in peace and to live in security.

Because of what you men are doing here today, you may very well prevent a wider war, a greater war—a world war III.

You have come a long way from your homes to fight for a decent world.

There must have been times when you wished that this cup might pass from you—that it might have come in some other place, at some other time, or to some other generation.

But it didn't. It came here, and it is with us now.

You have taken it with your chins up and your chests out. You have taken it with courage that makes all of your countrymen proud of you.

This Christmas—like many Christmases that we have known—comes at a time of great testing for our Nation. This time it is a test of will: whether we have the vision and the steady hand to see us through a grave challenge to our freedom and our liberty. You have met that test. There is no doubt about it.

The last thing that I can bring to you is the promise that your fellow Americans are going to meet that test, too. They may need your help. Sometimes we seem almost frail and weak compared to you sturdy, strong men who are making the sacrifices here. But I can tell you we shall not fail you. What you have done will not have been done in vain.

I pray that you will be strengthened, this Christmas Day in wartime, by the love of your loved ones and your people, by the great confidence that you are inspiring in other people, and by your own great steadfast courage.

I know that just being here among you,

walking down your hospital corridors, riding on the back of your jeep—I know that gives me strength—and I need all I can get. For that strength that you have given me, I am very grateful to each of you.

Now may God bless you and may God keep each of you.

Each of you, when you return, will wear the badge of honor that the greatest republic in the world can confer.

This morning, as I went along the hospital beds and distributed the Purple Heart to dozens who had given their limbs and their bodies in line of battle, as I marched down the rows with the Distinguished Service Crosses and the Silver Stars and passed them out to your leaders, I remembered so vividly what General Westmoreland had told me when I was here the last time.

He said, "Mr. President, there are here in Vietnam assembled the best armed forces that any commander in chief ever commanded in all the history of the world."

This is clearly supported by the results that have been achieved since the dark days of 1965.

The distinguished Vice President this morning reminded me, notwithstanding all the complaints we hear, just how far we had come from the valleys and the depths of despondency to the heights and the cliffs, where we know now that the enemy can never win.

But the oldest and most firmly grounded military maxim is this: A military force is only as good as the quality of its leadership at the top.

Now that I have walked among you, in the hospitals and out on that concrete, I am going to ask you to indulge me a moment while I pay tribute to that leadership.

Our leaders have had to meet an enemy that is hardened by experience of over 20 years of fighting—an enemy using his knowl-

edge of the terrain to strike, to move, and to strike again. We have come from way behind.

All the challenges have been met. The enemy is not beaten but he knows that he has met his master in the field. He is holding desperately—he is trying to buy time—hoping that our Nation's will does not match his will.

For what you and your team have done, General Westmoreland, I award you today an Oak Leaf Cluster to the Distinguished Service Medal you have already proudly earned.

But leadership in modern war requires a team—not just one man of great quality.

The military team that your Commander in Chief has selected and has dispatched to Vietnam represents the best I can find in the entire United States.

Now I take the greatest pride in awarding also to General Creighton Abrams the Distinguished Service Medal.

General Abrams, the quality of your service has rarely been equaled and never excelled.

Now the Distinguished Service Medal—to General Bruce Palmer, who has served us honorably and with great efficiency;

—to that leader in the skies, General William Momyer, who paves the way and saves you fellows a lot of problems;

—to General Robert Cushman of the United States Marines;

—to Admiral Kenneth Veth;

—and in absentia, to Admiral “Bush” Bringle.

I shall present to you later your individual citations, for the contribution of each of you has been unique as well as distinguished.

I am very proud—as all Americans can be

proud—of the very complete and the intimate collaboration—General Westmoreland, and your team—between the military and the civil arms of policy here at the battle-front. Even as the enemy is being met, a nation is also being built—a new, modern nation is emerging. Of this, we are very proud. And for this, we are grateful.

In the civilian team now in Vietnam we have men who fully match the quality of our military leaders.

These men have demonstrated wisdom and dedication, toughness and compassion, imagination and efficiency.

Therefore, to you, Ambassador Bunker—for the second time in your most distinguished career—your President awards you the Medal of Freedom.

I award the Medal of Freedom to Ambassador Eugene Locke, your loyal and energetic deputy, who is unavoidably not here today.

I award the Medal of Freedom also to your able Ambassador Robert Komer who has pioneered a unique experiment in serving under a military commander to unify all our civil assets in the task of pacification—which is, simply, another name for nation-building.

These citations will be presented to each of you personally at an appropriate time.

Now to all of this marvelous team of Americans—military and civilian alike—and to every gallant man who is out here this morning, and to all those who are not privileged to be here—I want you to carry to them a message.

Say to them: You and they have the gratitude of your Nation and the pride and appreciation of your President.

God bless each of you.

God keep you all.

Thank you.

NOTE: The President spoke at 9:50 a.m. at Cam Ranh Bay, Republic of Vietnam. In his opening words he referred to Nguyen Cao Ky, Vice President of the Republic of Vietnam, Gen. William C. Westmoreland, Commander, United States Military Assistance Command, Vietnam, and Ellsworth Bunker, U.S. Ambassador to the Republic of Vietnam.

The President awarded the Oak Leaf Cluster to General Westmoreland, and the Distinguished Service Medal to Gen. Creighton W. Abrams, Deputy Commander, United States Military Assistance Command, Vietnam, Lt. Gen. Bruce Palmer, Deputy Commanding General, U.S. Army, Vietnam, Gen. William W.

Momyer, Deputy Commander, United States Military Assistance Command, Vietnam, for Air Operations and Commander, 7th Air Force in Vietnam, Lt. Gen. Robert E. Cushman, Commanding General, III Marine Amphibious Force, Rear Adm. Kenneth L. Veth, Commander, U.S. Naval Forces, Vietnam, and Vice Adm. William F. Bringle, Commander, 7th Fleet.

The President awarded the Medal of Freedom to Ambassador Bunker, Eugene Locke, Deputy U.S. Ambassador to the Republic of Vietnam, and Robert W. Komer, Deputy for Pacification in Vietnam with the personal rank of Ambassador.

568 Statement by the President Upon Signing Bill Increasing Benefits for Federal Employees in Hazardous Duty Posts.

December 23, 1967

NOT ALL the soldiers in freedom's cause carry guns, or wear their country's uniform.

The war they fight is against the enemies that breed war—hunger and sickness and ignorance.

They fight this war not with bullets but by building the foundations of peace.

They advance the cause for which the soldier serves.

And when they carry on their work in the heat of armed conflict—in Vietnam or any other background—they share the soldier's risk.

American public servants in the villages and hamlets of Vietnam are helping a small nation shape its destiny. Their quiet labors are a shield against aggression's success.

But they are exposed to the hazards of a war which knows no fixed battlelines. Some have been kidnapped by the enemy. Some have been killed. Some are missing today.

The bill I sign recognizes the hardships those civilians face as they serve their country.

Here is what it does:

—It lets them go home twice a year to rejoin their families. And the Government pays the cost of the trips.

—It provides free transportation home in the event of a family emergency.

—It gives a year of convalescent leave to those injured in hostile actions. And this is not charged to their annual or sick leave.

—It provides special medical benefits for employee and his family.

These are small compensations measured against their sacrifice. But they show that America cares. They show that America has not forgotten its public servants in the State Department, AID, and USIA, whose courage and dedication to humanity are a badge of our commitment in Vietnam and the other troubled areas of the world.

NOTE: As enacted, the bill (S. 1785) is Public Law 90-221 (81 Stat. 671).

The statement was released at Cam Ranh Bay, Republic of Vietnam.

569 Joint Statement Following Discussions in Karachi With President Ayub of Pakistan. *December 23, 1967*

ON THE OCCASION of President Johnson's refueling stop at Karachi, President Ayub joined him for a discussion which covered both bilateral matters and issues of common concern on the world scene.

President Ayub outlined the rapid progress being made in agricultural as well as industrial development in Pakistan. The two Presidents discussed Pakistan's additional needs of wheat and vegetable oils and agreed to ask a staff study to be made available at an early date.

President Johnson congratulated President Ayub on Pakistan's continuing progress, and especially for the success of Pakistan in introducing new wheat strains, expanding human consumption of maize, and expanding

both irrigation and chemical fertilizer application.

President Johnson expressed gratification at the inauguration of the Mangla Dam and the prospects for other such projects.

The two Presidents then reviewed the world situation with special emphasis on the possibility of moving toward peace in Vietnam.

President Johnson conveyed his impression of discussions earlier that day in Vietnam and earlier in Australia with several Asian leaders.

Both Presidents shared the deep hope that peace would soon be achieved in Vietnam, and agreed that every avenue should continue to be explored.

NOTE: The joint statement was issued at Karachi, Pakistan.

570 Statement by the President Upon Arriving in Rome. *December 23, 1967*

IT IS a miracle of the age that within the space of 4½ days I will have circumnavigated the globe. But it is a tragedy of the time that sadness is swifter than flight.

In Australia I listened in grief to the cathedral hymn that sang the memory of a brave friend and ally.

In Vietnam, I saw the strong, clear faces of young Americans who must spend a part of their youth in battle to find a peace for us.

But now I am in Italy at Christmastime. Here the Italian people, whose blood runs in the veins of so many Americans, feel the theme of Christmas because so much of what it means and exalts resides in the ageless courage of the Church.

Saint Paul taught us that we walk by

faith and not by sight.

And Pope Paul inspires us to believe that man's faith will prevail in the darkest hours.

The Pope and I will talk of peace, of how it might be achieved and preserved. Peace is his mission and constant concern, as it is of the hundreds of millions of people throughout the world who call him Holy Father.

He has reemphasized to all of us quite recently his deep and passionate desire to do whatever he can, whenever he can, "towards the re-establishment of peace." Not only the Church he heads, but the moral force he exerts are assets which should be employed in constructing a future without war.

This is a task that must also be undertaken in the councils of government, in the churches, in the neighborhood, and in the privacy of our faith, so that one day the morning will come when "no war or battle's sound will be heard the world around."

If we can put away violence, and greed, and ungoverned ambitions, then we can be about the work that urgently needs to be done—to feed the hungry, to teach the ignorant, and heal the sick.

NOTE: The statement was released at Rome, Italy.

571 Statement by the President Following His Meeting at the Vatican With Pope Paul VI. *December 23, 1967*

I HAVE COME around the world to call on His Holiness Pope Paul in the spirit of his offer of "unarmed cooperation . . . towards the reestablishment of true peace."

No man can avoid being moved to try harder for peace at Christmastime.

We discussed possible paths to peace, and the efforts that have been made in recent years, so far without success.

We agree with His Holiness that "an honorable settlement of the painful and threatening dispute is still possible." I received his judgment to this end, and I deeply appreciate the full and free manner in which it was given.

His Holiness has suggested a principle of mutual restraint. If this principle were accepted by both sides, there would be rapid and solid progress toward peace.

We would be willing to stop the bombing and proceed promptly to serious and productive discussions.

A total end to the violence would be our urgent objective.

We support informal talks with the South.

We are ready for formal talks with the North.

We will agree to any proposal that would substitute the word and the vote for the knife and the grenade in bringing honorable peace to Vietnam.

We shall keep closely in touch with His Holiness in the days ahead, as we shall with others who are searching to lift the scourge of war from Vietnam and South-east Asia.

NOTE: The statement was released at Rome, Italy.

572 Statement by the President Upon His Departure From Italy. *December 23, 1967*

I AM LEAVING Italy after a visit which has been very brief but, I believe, very useful and constructive. I have been able to greet and consult with President Saragat, Prime Minister Moro, and Foreign Minister Fanfani and I have had a memorable audience with His Holiness, Pope Paul VI.

Once again, these beneficial exchanges have brought home to me how greatly the

conduct of relations between nations has been changed by this new age of rapid communications and travel. While our meetings were necessarily on short notice, we were able to meet as friends who have been able to confer together with relative frequency in recent years—and we were able to discuss current matters on a current basis. This is a new age for statecraft and I believe we can

all hope that such closeness between leaders of nations will hasten the day of understanding and cooperation in peace for all men.

The President, the Premier, Foreign Minister, and I reviewed some of the problems confronting the great Atlantic Alliance to which our two countries belong. I was especially gratified by the mutual confidence among us regarding the prospects for the Alliance's future. We also talked about the problem of achieving peace in Southeast Asia and I reviewed with them the continuing determination of the United States to seek every opportunity to bring peace and justice to the people of Vietnam.

In my meeting with His Holiness, we discussed the vital necessity of taking new steps

to bring peace to Vietnam and to maintain peace among all nations of the earth. I discussed with His Holiness the plight of the American prisoner being held by the North Vietnamese and being denied the rights required by international standards. I have reviewed in another statement more fully these valued discussions with His Holiness.

I am returning home now to observe Christmas with my family. I do so encouraged by these brief talks in Europe, as by all the talks of this mission. As I leave Italy, I would like to extend to all the people of the great Republic of Italy the greetings of this season and the warmest of good wishes for the year ahead.

NOTE: The statement was released at Rome, Italy.

573 The President's Christmas Message to the Nation Upon Returning From His Round-the-World Trip. *December 24, 1967*

My fellow Americans:

Not many hours ago I stood among some of your sons in Vietnam.

I had come back to Asia, 14 months after my last visit there, to say farewell to a friend—the late Prime Minister Harold Holt of Australia. I had joined with the leaders of Asia and the Commonwealth in ceremonies and meetings that spoke—not only of our personal loss—but of our common bonds.

The spirit of Harold Holt—the spirit of the New Asia—was powerfully alive among those who gathered to pay tribute to his memory.

I had traveled then to Thailand—to the air base at Khorat—and in the darkness before dawn yesterday morning, I spoke to our pilots and our ground crews—the brave

and skillful airmen who are there helping to ease the enemy's pressures on our soldiers and our marines in South Vietnam.

Now, on the airstrip at Cam Ranh Bay, in South Vietnam, your sons and I exchanged "Merry Christmas" and "Happy New Year." I told them that I wished I could bring them something more—some part of the pride you feel in them, some tangible symbol of your love and concern for them.

But I knew that they could feel your pride. I knew that they were confident of your love. Their faces were smiling, and they had that enthusiasm, that brave generosity of spirit that the world associates with young Americans in uniform.

I decorated 20 of them for gallantry in action. Their faces seemed more grave than

the others—preoccupied, I thought, with the savage experience of battle they had all endured.

And then in the hospital, I spoke with those who bore the wounds of war. You cannot be in such a place, among such men, without feeling grief well up in your throat, without feeling grateful that there is such courage among your own countrymen.

That was Christmastime in Vietnam—a time of war, of suffering, of endurance, of bravery, and devotion to country.

A few hours later, only last night at 9 o'clock, I sat with His Holiness Pope Paul, in his Vatican study.

I had flown thousands of miles, for many hours, from Vietnam to Rome, so that I might receive the counsel of this good man—this friend of peace.

I wanted to tell him that the United States had been actively seeking an end to the war in Vietnam—that we had traveled dozens of roads in search of peace—but that thus far these had proved fruitless journeys.

I wanted to promise him—as I have promised you, my fellow Americans—that the disappointments we had known in the past would never deter us from again trying any reasonable route to negotiations.

These things I said to him last night, and then I listened as His Holiness told me of his eagerness to help bring peace to Vietnam. That is an eagerness that every American boy in uniform feels more than we do. We talked of what might be done to help the people of Vietnam become reconciled to one another in a nation at peace. I felt, once more, what all the world already knows: the human sympathy—the passion for peace—that fills the heart of the Pope.

I told His Holiness that America wel-

comed his efforts to bring an end to the strife and sorrow. And I told him of a matter that weighs on our hearts this Christmas, and every day of the year: the treatment of American prisoners of war in North Vietnam.

I told him how we hoped he would intercede on their behalf, trying to gain for them more humane living conditions and seeking for them the elemental right to communicate with their loved ones. I assured him that his representatives would be welcomed wherever prisoners were held in South Vietnam.

That was Christmastime in Rome—a time of quiet, of understanding, of communication without any barrier.

Now that the holy day itself has come, I wish each of you a full measure of happiness. I hope that all of you may remember, this Christmas, the brave young men who celebrate the holy season far from their homes, some in trailers, some in rice paddies and foxholes, but all of them serving their country—serving their loved ones—serving each of us.

I hope, too, that your hearts may be filled with peace within, as your country so earnestly seeks peace in the world.

Our country has known many wartime Christmases. It may seem difficult, at such times, to even say "Merry Christmas." But when you think of the bravery of the human spirit, and the compassion of the human heart, and the power of life to triumph over pain and darkness, you are properly thankful. Your own spirits are lifted higher; and you say it—and mean it—as I do now. Merry Christmas.

NOTE: The President's message was recorded in the White House Theater for national broadcast.

574 Statement by the President Upon Signing Bill Providing for District of Columbia Participation in the Medicaid Program.
December 27, 1967

I HAVE SIGNED H.R. 10964, a new law that deserves special notice and gives me special pride—because it brings urgently needed help to 180,000 poor and elderly citizens who live in the Nation's Capital.

Because of this new law, thousands of needy families in the District can now participate in the Nation's Medicaid program.

Because of this law, older citizens in Washington can now receive hospital benefits under Medicare for treatment in

publicly-owned hospitals and health facilities.

This act is more than a promise of hope and health. It is another step toward fulfilling our pledge to make our Capital a model city—to make it truly the Nation's first city and no longer a forgotten city.

NOTE: As enacted, H.R. 10964 is Public Law 90-227 (81 Stat. 744).

The statement was released at San Antonio, Texas.

575 Statement by the President Upon Signing the District of Columbia Crime Bill. *December 27, 1967*

LAST YEAR I withheld my approval from a D.C. crime bill. In my judgment, that bill would not have served the people of Washington as an effective crime-fighting weapon. Moreover, it would have seriously invaded individual rights.

I have given the most careful consideration to the bill before me now. I find it in many respects a substantial improvement.

It contains provisions which will clearly help the fight against crime.

—The District policeman will now be able to issue a simple citation to a person he arrests on a misdemeanor charge, instead of wasting time taking the offender to the station house.

—The city will now have a clear and forceful antiriot law.

—For the first time since the turn of the century, the District's criminal code will be given a comprehensive review.

On the other hand I must call special attention to two provisions—one virtually

unchanged from last year's measure, the other modified.

The first specifies minimum sentences for certain crimes. As I pointed out last year, minimum sentence requirements are a backward step in modern correctional policy. They deprive our judges of the discretion—traditional in our system of law—to fix sentences on the basis of an individual's record and character.

The second provision allows 3 hours of questioning by the police before the arrested person is taken to a judicial officer.

The effectiveness of this provision will depend on the quality of its administration and the spirit of fairness with which it is carried out. In our system of government, statements taken from an accused can never be a substitute for careful and painstaking work by law officers.

In the last session of the Congress, I recommended a Safe Streets and Crime Control Act to help local communities meet their local

responsibilities in fighting the causes of crime. This measure demands the most urgent attention of the Congress upon its return.

That measure emphasizes what we all know—crime is a local problem.

That is true in the District of Columbia, as in every other city of this land.

The bill before me today has the support of the mayor and the administration of the city of Washington.

I am signing this bill in the belief that their careful attention to all its provisions will assure an effective campaign for the public order.

I am confident that if the administration of the law reveals the need for change, that need will be reported—and subsequently met.

No more serious domestic problem faces America than the growing menace of crime in our streets.

I hope the Congress in the next session will address itself to the business still undone:

—Strict gun control legislation to keep firearms out of the wrong hands.

—Higher police salaries for which funds have already been appropriated.

I hope that the Congress will also look beyond the Capital City to the problem of crime in all cities.

The will to solve this problem must engage us all. Public order is the structure on which any society grows and prospers.

The bill I sign today recognizes the seriousness of the problem and affirms America's intention to win this fight.

NOTE: As enacted, the bill (H.R. 10783) is Public Law 90-226 (81 Stat. 734). The statement was released at San Antonio, Texas.

The Omnibus Crime Control and Safe Streets Act of 1968 was approved by the President on June 19, 1968 (Public Law 90-351, 82 Stat. 197).

Public Law 90-226, "An Act Relating to Crime and Criminal Procedure in the District of Colum-

bia," was the final bill signed by the President during 1967. Earlier, on December 16, the White House made public a report on the legislative record of the first session of the 90th Congress, as follows:

WHITE HOUSE REPORT ON THE LEGISLATIVE RECORD OF THE FIRST SESSION OF THE 90TH CONGRESS *

By all yardsticks, this session was productive. This Congress continued the chapter of progress begun by the 88th and 89th Congresses. But its steps forward in the first session were not as great as the 89th.

Many of the measures passed—including the Wholesome Meat Act, the Air Pollution Act, the Flammable Fabrics Act, the Social Security benefits and the Public Television Act—will better the lives of millions of Americans for years to come.

But important unfinished business still remains—some of it most serious, like the failure of the Congress to pass the Safe Streets and Crime Control Act and the tax legislation. We hope that the unfinished business of the first session will be transformed in the second session into a record of achievement for the American people.

In this report we list first the unfinished business. We then set out principal measures that were passed.

THE UNFINISHED BUSINESS

1. *The Tax Surcharge*—to combat inflation and prevent a high interest rate spiral. [Revenue and Expenditure Control Act of 1968, approved June 28, 1968; Public Law 90-364, 82 Stat. 251]

2. *The Safe Streets and Crime Control Act*—to strengthen local police forces in every city and community. The House passed the measure, although not in the form the Administration recommended. [Omnibus Crime Control and Safe Streets Act of 1968, approved June 19, 1968; Public Law 90-351, 82 Stat. 197]

3. *The Gun Control Law*—to keep dangerous weapons out of the wrong hands.

4. *Truth-in-Lending*—to require the seller to fairly and honestly disclose his interest charges. It passed the Senate. [Consumer Credit Protection Act, approved May 29, 1968; Public Law 90-321, 82 Stat. 146]

5. *Pipeline Safety*—to protect homes and crowded cities against the hazards of pipeline explosions. It passed the Senate.

6. *Election Reform*—to increase public confidence and participation in the electoral process. It passed the Senate.

* Additional information on laws passed later by Congress has been supplied in brackets by the editors of this volume.

7. *Civil Rights*—no action on *fair housing*. The Senate passed a bill requiring *fair Federal jury selection*. The House passed a measure affording *greater protection* to persons exercising their lawful civil rights.

8. *Higher Education Act*—to help America's colleges build the classrooms to educate the growing numbers of students. [Higher Education Act of 1965, amendments, approved August 3, 1968; Public Law 90-460, 82 Stat. 634]

9. *Juvenile Delinquency Prevention*—to help communities fight delinquency and prevent potential delinquents from becoming actual delinquents. It passed the House. [Juvenile Delinquency Prevention and Control Act of 1968, approved July 31, 1968; Public Law 90-445, 82 Stat. 462]

10. *Right to Privacy*—to guard against wire-tapping and other invasions of privacy.

11. *Export-Import Bank*—to help finance our exports and ease our balance of payments problem. It passed the Senate. [Export-Import Bank Act of 1945, amendments, approved March 13, 1968; Public Law 90-267, 82 Stat. 47—Export-Import Bank loans, extension, approved July 7, 1968; Public Law 90-390, 82 Stat. 296]

12. *The Fire Safety and Research Act*. It passed the Senate. [Fire Research and Safety Act of 1968, approved March 1, 1968; Public Law 90-259, 82 Stat. 34]

13. *Electric Power Reliability* to guard against massive power failures.

14. *Mutual Fund Legislation*.

15. *Interstate Land Sales* to protect the buyer against fraudulent land transactions.

16. *Various Conservation Measures* which passed the Senate (Redwoods National Park, Apostle Islands Park, North Cascades Park, National Water Commission, Scenic Rivers) or both Houses (San Rafael Wilderness). [San Rafael Wilderness, Calif., approved March 21, 1968; Public Law 90-271, 82 Stat. 51—San Gabriel Wilderness, Calif., approved May 24, 1968; Public Law 90-318, 82 Stat. 131]

17. *Elected School Board* for D.C. which passed both Houses. [District of Columbia Elected Board of Education Act, approved April 22, 1968; Public Law 90-292, 82 Stat. 101]

18. *Highway Beautification* which passed the Senate. [Federal-Aid Highway Act of 1968, approved August 23, 1968; Public Law 90-495, 82 Stat. 815]

THE GAINS

For the Consumer

1. The Wholesome Meat Bill
2. The Flammable Fabrics Bill
3. The Product Safety Commission
4. Clinical Laboratory Improvements

For the Cities

5. Rent Supplement Funds (but less than we sought)
6. Model Cities Funds (but less than we sought)
7. Urban Fellowships—to help train more city planners
8. Rat Extermination
9. Urban Research Funds (to help create an Institute of Urban Development)

For Education

10. Elementary and Secondary Education Act
11. Education Professions Act—to help train school administrators and other education workers
12. College Work-Study Program
13. Teacher Corps
14. Library Services
15. Public Television

For Health

16. Air Pollution Act
17. Partnership for Health
18. Mental Retardation
19. Mental Health
20. Vocational Rehabilitation, including Deaf-Blind Center

For the Older American

21. Increased Social Security Benefits—Almost \$4 billion, the largest increase in history
22. Older Americans Act
23. Age Discrimination

For the Needy

24. 1967 Summer Programs (\$75 million supplemental)
25. Food Stamps
26. Appalachia Regional Development
27. The Poverty Bill (but with less funding than we sought)
28. Strengthening the Federal Credit Unions

For the Economy

29. Interest Equalization Tax (to help balance of payments)
30. Debt Ceiling Increase (2 measures: FY 67-FY 68)
31. Restoration of Investment Tax Credits
32. Settlement of Nationwide Rail Dispute
33. Silver Certificate Redemptions (to help curb silver speculation)

34. Stockpile Bills—returning \$32 million to Treasury
35. Strengthening Assistance to Small Business

For Conservation

36. Saline Water Program
37. West Coast Desalting Plant

For our International Commitments

38. Foreign Aid Bill (but with substantially less funds than we sought)
39. Food for India
40. Outer Space Treaty
41. Consular Treaty with USSR
42. Safety at Sea Treaty
43. Narcotics Treaty
44. Inter-American Development Bank Authorization
45. Peace Corps Authorization

For Better Government

46. Civilian and Postal Workers Pay Increase
47. Modern Government for the Nation's Capital
48. Postal Rate Increase
49. Postal Modernization and Improvement

For our National Security and Veterans

50. Vietnam Veterans Benefits Bill
51. Extension of the Selective Service Act (but Congress did not authorize the FAIR system)
52. Military Pay Increase

Miscellaneous

53. Extension of Civil Rights Commission
54. Federal Judicial Center
55. Supersonic Transport Funds
56. Highway Safety Funds
57. Obstruction of Justice to fight organized crime

576 Statement by the President Upon Signing Order Relating to Federal Participation in Regional Economic Development.

December 29, 1967

APPALACHIA teaches many lessons. Its recent progress tells us that the partnership of Federal, State, and local governments can work—in Appalachia and in other regions.

The national interest demands we do more to strengthen the economies and improve the lives of the millions of Americans in these vast areas. Boundaries of States do not define areas of need. Only by working together can adjoining States, with the assistance of the Federal Government, find common solutions to their common problems.

Much work awaits us in rebuilding the cities of America to meet the needs of growing populations. But we cannot afford to neglect the areas that lie beyond the cities or the people that live in them. They too must be permitted to share in America's great abundance.

The steps I take today will make the Federal Government a stronger, more efficient partner in meeting this complex challenge of our times.

NOTE: The President's statement was made public as part of a White House announcement accompanying the text of Executive Order 11386 (3 Weekly Comp. Pres. Docs., p. 1778; 33 F.R. 5; 3 CFR, 1968 Comp.).

The announcement stated that the order (1) requires the Secretary of Commerce to provide effective liaison between the Federal Government and the six regional commissions for economic development, (2) gives the Secretary of Commerce responsibility for promoting the coordination of activities of the Federal Government relating to regional economic development, (3) directs each Federal department and agency to name a high-level official for regional economic development activities, and (4) establishes a new Federal Advisory Council on Regional Economic Development to assist in coordinating all regional economic development activities of the Federal Government.

The announcement further stated that "regional commissions now exist for Appalachia, New England, Upper Great Lakes, Ozarks, Four Corners,

and Coastal Plains. In each, the States involved work with the Federal Government to develop comprehensive strategies combining Federal, State, and

local resources to foster rapid growth and development in the region."

The statement was released at San Antonio, Texas.

577 Message to the Governor-General of Canada on the Death of Vincent Massey. *December 30, 1967*

ON BEHALF of my countrymen, I join you in mourning the death of your distinguished predecessor, the former Governor-General.

Canada has lost one of its most honored citizens and the United States, a valued friend. Vincent Massey was a wise and eloquent statesman, and we in the United States were especially honored by his service as the first Minister of Canada.

I extend to you and all Canadians my deepest sympathy.

LYNDON B. JOHNSON

[The Honorable Roland Michener, Governor-General of Canada]

NOTE: Mr. Massey died of pneumonia on December 30 while on a visit to London. He served as Governor-General of Canada from 1952 until his retirement in 1959.

The message was released at San Antonio, Texas.

Appendix A—White House Releases

NOTE: Includes releases covering matters with which the President was closely concerned, except announcements of personnel appointments and lists of public and private laws.

Releases relating to Proclamations and Executive orders have not been included. These documents are separately listed in Appendix B.

For list of Press Conferences, see subject index under "News conferences."

In many instances the White House issued advance releases of addresses or remarks which differ from the text as delivered. These have been noted in brackets, thus: [2 releases].

January

- 5 Remarks to the Lyndon B. Johnson Australian Science Scholars
- 10 Statement by the President on the death of Representative John E. Fogarty of Rhode Island
- 10 Annual message to the Congress on the State of the Union [2 releases]
- 12 Announcement of allocation of funds for innovative educational projects developed by local school districts
- 12 Statement by the President upon announcing the appointment of a Commission on Codes, Zoning, Taxation and Development Standards
- 12 List of members of Commission cited above
- 16 Remarks at the swearing in of Alan S. Boyd as Secretary of the new Department of Transportation
- 17 The President's toast at a dinner honoring the Vice President, the Speaker, and the Chief Justice
- 18 Letter accepting resignation of John T. Connor as Secretary of Commerce
- 18 Announcement of Medal of Honor ceremony for Maj. Bernard F. Fisher, USAF
- 19 Remarks upon presenting the Medal of Honor to Maj. Bernard F. Fisher, USAF [2 releases]

January

- 19 Letter accepting resignation of Lincoln Gordon as Assistant Secretary of State for Inter-American Affairs
- 19 Message to the Congress transmitting Second Annual Report on the International Coffee Agreement
- 20 Letter to the President of the Senate and to the Speaker of the House recommending extension of the Appalachian program
- 23 Special message to the Congress proposing programs for older Americans
- 24 Annual budget message to the Congress, fiscal year 1968
- 24 Letter to the Speaker of the House requesting supplemental appropriations in support of military operations in Southeast Asia
- 24 Letter from the Director, Bureau of the Budget, submitting proposed supplemental appropriations request in support of military operations in Southeast Asia
- 25 Annual message to the Congress on the District of Columbia budget
- 26 Announcement of the first of a series of visits to improve lines of communication with State governments
- 26 Annual message to the Congress: The Economic Report of the President
- 26 Toasts of the President and President-elect Costa e Silva of Brazil
- 27 Remarks at the signing of the Treaty on Outer Space
- 27 Statement by the President on the death of astronauts Virgil I. Grissom, Edward H. White 2d, and Roger B. Chaffee
- 28 Announcement of appointment of emergency board in railway labor dispute

Appendix A

January

- 30 Special message to the Congress: Protecting Our Natural Heritage
- 30 The President's remarks upon being advised that he would receive the Franklin D. Roosevelt Birthday Memorial Award
- 30 Memorandum urging support of the Red Cross by Federal employees and members of the Armed Forces
- 31 Remarks to the members of the United States Jaycees Governmental Affairs Seminar [2 releases]
- 31 Message to the Congress transmitting annual report on U.S. aeronautics and space activities
- 31 Special message to the Congress: America's Servicemen and Veterans
- 31 Statement by the President on the message on America's servicemen and veterans
- 31 Announcement of report of National Advisory Council on the Education of Disadvantaged Children
- 31 Letter on law enforcement in the District of Columbia
- 31 Remarks upon accepting a portrait of Franklin Delano Roosevelt [2 releases]

February

- 1 Letter to the President of the Senate and to the Speaker of the House proposing to add the San Rafael Wilderness, California, to the National Wilderness Preservation System
- 1 Remarks at a ceremony marking the effective date of the increase in minimum wages [2 releases]
- 1 Letter to the Secretary of Commerce concerning a report on the Environmental Science Services Administration
- 2 Remarks at the Presidential Prayer Breakfast [2 releases]
- 2 Special message to the Congress on food for India and on other steps to be taken in an international war on hunger
- 6 Special message to the Congress on crime in America

February

- 6 Statement by the President on the message on crime in America
- 6 Remarks upon presenting the National Medal of Science awards [2 releases]
- 6 Announcement concerning the National Medal of Science awards
- 7 Special message to the Senate on transmitting the Treaty on Outer Space
- 8 Special message to the Congress recommending a 12-point program for America's children and youth
- 8 Statement by the President on the message on America's children and youth
- 8 Remarks to a group of Boy Scouts following their presentation of the Scouts' annual "Report to the Nation"
- 8 The President's reply to a message from Pope Paul VI on Vietnam
- 9 Remarks of welcome at the White House to King Hassan II of Morocco [2 releases]
- 9 Special message to the Congress on foreign aid
- 9 Statement by the President on the foreign aid message
- 9 Toasts of the President and King Hassan II of Morocco [2 releases]
- 10 Statement by the President on announcing an agreement with Mexico on the Rio Grande saline problem
- 11 Statement by the President concerning the report "The Space Program in the Post-Apollo Period"
- 11 Announcement of the President's Science Advisory Committee report "The Space Program in the Post-Apollo Period"
- 11 Announcement that the President would speak at a ceremony on Lincoln's birthday
- 12 Remarks at a ceremony at the Lincoln Memorial [2 releases]
- 13 Statement by the President on the resumption of bombing in North Vietnam
- 13 Remarks of welcome at the White House to Haile Selassie, Emperor of Ethiopia [2 releases]

Appendix A

February

- 14 Toasts of the President and the Emperor of Ethiopia [2 releases]
- 15 Announcement concerning transmission to the Senate of amendments to the International Convention for Safety of Life at Sea
- 15 Message to the Congress transmitting First Annual Report of the National Endowment for the Arts
- 15 Message to the Congress transmitting First Annual Report of the National Endowment for the Humanities
- 15 Special message to the Congress on equal justice
- 15 Statement by the President on the message on equal justice
- 16 Special message to the Congress "To Protect the American Consumer"
- 16 Statement by the President on the message on consumer protection
- 17 Memorandum from the Secretary of the Interior informing the President of grants for neighborhood recreation centers in the District of Columbia
- 17 Message to the Congress transmitting annual report of the United States Arms Control and Disarmament Agency
- 18 Statement by the President concerning the report of the President's Commission on Law Enforcement and Administration of Justice
- 20 Announcement of additional flood relief funds for Arizona
- 20 Presidential Unit Citation awarded to the 21st Tactical Air Support Squadron, USAF
- 20 Report from the Acting Secretary of Commerce on the impact of the investment tax credit suspension
- 20 Statement by the President on the death of Dr. J. Robert Oppenheimer
- 20 Remarks at a White House luncheon for farm leaders [2 releases]
- 20 Announcement concerning the first group of Juarez Scholars established under the President's 1966 agreement with the President of Mexico

February

- 21 Message to the delegates to the Eighteen-Nation Disarmament Committee
- 21 Letter to the President of the Senate and to the Speaker of the House transmitting a proposal to modernize the patent system
- 21 Statement by the President announcing the new Freedom Share savings notes
- 23 Statement by the President on the 50th Anniversary of the Smith-Hughes Vocational Education Act
- 23 Report by Under Secretary of State Katzenbach on CIA support to private organizations
- 23 Remarks at ceremony marking the ratification of the Presidential inability (25th) amendment to the Constitution [2 releases]
- 24 Statement by the President on the death of Roy Roberts
- 27 Special message to the Congress: The Nation's Capital
- 27 Special message to the Congress transmitting Reorganization Plan 1 of 1967, functions relating to ship mortgages
- 27 Remarks at a press briefing by David Lilienthal and Robert Komer following their return from Vietnam
- 27 Announcement of hurricane disaster relief funds for Oklahoma
- 27 Letter to the President of the Senate and to the Speaker of the House on Executive Order 11322 "Trade and Other Transactions Involving Southern Rhodesia"
- 28 Statement by the President on the death of Henry Luce
- 28 Statement by the President upon recommending development of a nuclear-powered rocket engine and new nuclear research facilities
- 28 Special message to the Congress: "Education and Health in America"
- 28 Statement by the President on his message on education and health
- 28 The President's remarks to the press upon announcing his intention to nominate Ramsey Clark as Attorney General

Appendix A

March

- 1 Press briefing by Secretaries Rusk and McNamara on the Buenos Aires meeting of foreign ministers and on Vietnam
- 2 Remarks at a ceremony marking the 100th anniversary of Howard University [2 releases]
- 2 Remarks on the occasion of the centennial of the United States Office of Education [2 releases]
- 2 Letter to Senator Jackson concerning the bombing of North Vietnam
- 2 Message to the people of Puerto Rico on the 50th anniversary of the granting of United States citizenship
- 3 Statement by the President announcing the appointment of a commission to study the Federal budget
- 3 Letter to the President of the Senate and to the Speaker of the House transmitting report on protective payments under the aid to families with dependent children program
- 4 Statement by the President announcing the appointment of Miss Betty Furness as Special Assistant for Consumer Affairs
- 4 Statement by the President upon appointing the National Advisory Council on Economic Opportunity
- 4 Statement by the President announcing a series of actions to encourage housing construction
- 5 Memorandum from the Attorney General on the forthcoming National Conference on Crime Control
- 5 Announcement of forthcoming National Outlook Conference on Rural Youth
- 5 Memorandum "Economic Planning for the End of Vietnam Hostilities"
- 5 Memorandum report for the President on health manpower programs
- 6 Memorandum report for the President on eradication of measles
- 6 Message to the Congress transmitting the Fifth Annual Report of the Peace Corps
- 6 Special message to the Congress transmitting a report on the Community Work and Training Program

March

- 6 Special message to the Congress on Selective Service
- 6 Résumé of proposed changes in Selective Service procedures
- 7 Remarks at the seventh annual Federal Woman's Award ceremony [2 releases]
- 8 Message to the Senate transmitting the Single Convention on Narcotic Drugs, 1961
- 8 Letter concerning the progress report by the Federal Woman's Award Study Group
- 8 Summary of progress report by the Federal Woman's Award Study Group
- 8 Message to the Congress transmitting Third Joint Annual Report on the National Wilderness Preservation System
- 8 Ambassador Goldberg's news conference following meeting with the President to report on his Asian trip
- 8 Remarks at the swearing in of James J. Reynolds as Under Secretary and Thomas R. Donahue as Assistant Secretary of Labor [2 releases]
- 9 Statement by the President on a budget amendment reducing funds proposed for the Atomic Energy Commission
- 9 Special message to the Congress transmitting Reorganization Plan 2 of 1967: United States Tariff Commission
- 9 Message to the Congress transmitting 20th annual report on U.S. participation in the United Nations
- 9 Message to the Congress transmitting first report on marine resources and engineering development
- 9 Remarks upon awarding the Medal of Honor to Specialist 6 Lawrence Joel, USA [2 releases]
- 9 Special message to the Congress recommending reinstatement of the investment tax credit and accelerated depreciation investment incentives
- 9 Statement by the President on the message on reinstatement of investment incentives
- 10 Announcement of mission to Korea to stimulate private investment and promote U.S.-Korean trade

Appendix A

March

- 10 Remarks at the swearing in of Ramsey Clark as Attorney General [2 releases]
- 10 Announcement of award of Presidential Unit Citation to 3d Aerospace Rescue and Recovery Group, Military Airlift Command
- 10 Short history of 3d Aerospace Rescue and Recovery Group
- 10 Remarks upon presenting the Presidential Unit Citation to the 3d Aerospace Rescue and Recovery Group, Military Airlift Command [2 releases]
- 10 Text of Presidential Unit Citation
- 11 Letter to Harry S. Truman on the 20th anniversary of the Truman Doctrine
- 11 Message to King Constantine of Greece on the 20th anniversary of the Truman Doctrine
- 11 Message to President Sunay of Turkey on the 20th anniversary of the Truman Doctrine
- 13 Letter to the Speaker transmitting a supplemental appropriations request
- 13 Announcement of flood allocation to West Virginia
- 13 Special message to the Congress on the Latin American summit meeting
- 14 Remarks of welcome at the White House to Prime Minister Chung of Korea [2 releases]
- 14 Toasts of the President and Prime Minister Chung [2 releases]
- 14 Joint statement following discussions with Prime Minister Chung of Korea
- 14 Special message to the Congress: America's Unfinished Business, Urban and Rural Poverty
- 15 Remarks at the Hermitage at ceremonies marking the 200th anniversary of the birth of Andrew Jackson [2 releases]
- 15 Address on U.S. policy in Vietnam delivered before a joint session of the Tennessee State Legislature [2 releases]
- 15 Remarks in Columbia, Tenn., at the dedication of Columbia State Community College [2 releases]

March

- 16 Statement by the President upon signing bill authorizing supplemental appropriations for the Department of Defense
- 16 Statement by the President following Senate approval of the Consular Convention with the U.S.S.R.
- 17 Statement by the President announcing the release of deferred funds for Federal programs
- 17 Special message to the Congress: The Quality of American Government
- 17 Message to the Congress transmitting annual report under the Communications Satellite Act
- 18 Remarks at a White House Conference with the Governors
- 18 Remarks at the Governors' luncheon
- 18 The President's toast at a dinner for the Governors
- 20 Remarks at the airport upon arrival in Guam for discussions on Vietnam [2 releases]
- 20 Statement by the President upon arrival in Guam
- 20 Remarks of welcome to Chairman Thieu and Prime Minister Ky upon their arrival in Guam [2 releases]
- 20 Remarks at the opening session of the Guam conference
- 20 Statement by the President on the new Constitution adopted by the Constituent Assembly of the Republic of Vietnam
- 20 Toasts of the President and Chairman Thieu at a dinner in Guam [2 releases]
- 21 Joint statement following the meeting in Guam with Chairman Thieu and Prime Minister Ky
- 21 Announcement of disaster assistance allocation for the Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands
- 21 Statement by the President following a meeting with the High Commissioner of the Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands
- 21 Remarks at the airport upon departing from Guam [2 releases]
- 21 Remarks at Andrews Air Force Base near Washington upon returning from the Guam conference [2 releases]

Appendix A

March

- 21 Letter to Ho Chi Minh proposing bilateral discussions on the Vietnam conflict
- 22 Announcement of disaster relief funds for California
- 22 Message to the Congress transmitting first annual report on the operation of the Automotive Products Agreement with Canada
- 22 Statement by the President upon signing order providing emergency feed for livestock owned by Indians in disaster areas
- 22 Memorandum on aircraft noise and land use in the vicinity of airports
- 23 Statement by the President on the cost of the pay increase for Federal employees and military personnel
- 23 Announcement of Science Advisory Committee report on computers in higher education
- 23 The President's birthday greetings to General Westmoreland
- 24 Statement by the President on the swearing in of William Roth as Special Representative for Trade Negotiations
- 28 Remarks of welcome at the White House to Prime Minister Maiwandwal of Afghanistan [2 releases]
- 28 Toasts of the President and Prime Minister Maiwandwal [2 releases]
- 28 Joint statement following discussions with the Prime Minister of Afghanistan
- 28 Remarks to the delegates to the National Conference on Crime Control [2 releases]
- 29 Statement by the President concerning the report on the relationship between the CIA and private voluntary organizations
- 29 Remarks to the Directors of the State Departments of Commerce [2 releases]
- 30 Statement by the President upon signing order "Effective Date of Department of Transportation Act"
- 30 Schedule of events for Latin American ambassadors' visit to Texas

March

- 30 Remarks at a dinner for the Democratic State Chairmen
- 31 Ratification of Consular Convention with the U.S.S.R.
- 31 Remarks upon arrival in Texas with Latin American ambassadors for a weekend visit

April

- 1 Statement by the President upon signing resolution providing additional emergency food for India
- 3 Letter to the Chairman, U.S. Tariff Commission, directing the Commission to investigate effect of importation of certain cheeses
- 3 Message to the Congress transmitting annual report of National Capital Transportation Agency
- 3 Remarks of welcome at the White House to President Sunay of Turkey [2 releases]
- 3 Remarks at a ceremony marking the 50th anniversary of the Federal Land Banks [2 releases]
- 3 Statement by the President reviewing actions taken to carry out recommendations of the White House Conference on International Cooperation
- 3 Toasts of the President and President Sunay of Turkey [2 releases]
- 4 Statement by the President stating his objections to restrictive provisions in a supplemental appropriations bill
- 4 Remarks at a ceremony honoring the winners of the fourth annual Physical Fitness Leadership Awards
- 4 Remarks to directors and managers of the Veterans Administration [2 releases]
- 4 Joint statement following discussions with President Sunay of Turkey
- 5 Special message to the Congress on Federal pay and postal rates
- 5 Announcement of award of Medal of Honor (Posthumous) to Specialist 4 Daniel Fernandez, USA
- 5 Statement by the President upon announcing allocation of funds for educational opportunity grants to college students

Appendix A

April

- 6 Message to the Congress transmitting 16th annual report of the National Science Foundation
- 6 Press conference of Gen. Creighton W. Abrams following announcement of his assignment as deputy to General Westmoreland
- 6 Remarks upon presenting the Medal of Honor posthumously to Specialist 4 Daniel Fernandez, USA [2 releases]
- 7 Remarks at a press briefing following a meeting with the NATO Nuclear Planning Group
- 7 Announcement of plans for 4th annual Presidential Scholars program
- 7 Statement by the Press Secretary on Governor Romney's endorsement of the administration position on Vietnam
- 8 Statement by the President upon signing order establishing the Commission on Postal Organization
- 10 Remarks of welcome to the Vice President upon his return from Europe [2 releases]
- 10 Special message to the Congress on the impending nationwide rail strike
- 11 Remarks upon arrival in Uruguay for the Punta del Este Meeting of American Chiefs of State [2 releases]
- 11 Statement by the President on the joint resolution extending the "no strike" period in the railroad dispute
- 11 The President's toast at the dinner in Punta del Este, Uruguay, for the Presidents of Central American States
- 12 Statement by the President upon signing bill extending the "no strike" period in the railroad dispute
- 12 Statement by the President at an informal meeting with the American Chiefs of State at Punta del Este, Uruguay
- 13 Remarks in Punta del Este at the public session of the Meeting of American Chiefs of State [2 releases]
- 13 Announcement of plans for a 150-inch telescope in the Chilean Andes

April

- 14 Statement by the President following the close of the Meeting of American Chiefs of State at Punta del Este, Uruguay
- 14 "The Summit—a Summary," White House statement following the close of the Punta del Este meeting
- 14 Remarks at the airport in Paramaribo, Surinam, during the return from the meeting at Punta del Este [2 releases]
- 17 Message to the Congress transmitting first annual report of the Department of Housing and Urban Development
- 17 Message to the Congress transmitting annual report of the National Capital Housing Authority
- 19 Statement by the President on the death of Konrad Adenauer
- 19 Remarks upon presenting the National Teacher of the Year Award [2 releases]
- 20 Statement by the President in response to a report on the Teacher Corps
- 20 Statement by the President upon signing order providing further training for Government employees
- 21 Message to the Congress transmitting first annual report of the National Advisory Council on Extension and Continuing Education
- 21 Memorandum on air pollution
- 22 Statement by the President on offering assistance following tornadoes in the Midwest
- 22 Statement by the President upon receiving report of special panel to investigate the railroad labor dispute
- 22 Report of special panel appointed by the President in the railroad shopcraft-carrier dispute
- 23 Statement by the Press Secretary on the President's departure to attend funeral services for Chancellor Adenauer
- 24 Telegram to the Governors inviting them to a luncheon honoring General Westmoreland
- 24 Press office announcement in Bonn concerning the invitation to the Governors

Appendix A

April

- 24 Message to President Podgorny on the death of Soviet cosmonaut Vladimir Komarov
- 26 Exchange of remarks with Chancellor Kurt Kiesinger following discussions in Bonn
- 26 Remarks to members of the American Physical Society [2 releases]
- 27 Remarks at the dedication of the Crossland Vocational Center, Camp Springs, Md. [2 releases]
- 27 Announcement of U.S. delegation to inauguration of the President of Nicaragua
- 28 Announcement of appropriations requests, fiscal years 1967 and 1968
- 28 Letter to the President of the Senate and to the Speaker of the House urging further extension of the "no strike" period in the railroad dispute
- 28 Remarks at a luncheon for General Westmoreland
- 28 The President's introduction of Martha Raye at the luncheon for General Westmoreland
- 29 Statement by the President upon authorizing construction of a prototype supersonic transport aircraft
- 29 Announcement of award of Egyptian Temple of Dendur to the Metropolitan Museum of Art
- 29 Statement by the President on the preservation of the Egyptian Abu Simbel Temples

May

- 1 Annual message to the Congress: The President's Manpower Report
- 1 Remarks at the swearing in of Betty Furness as Special Assistant to the President for Consumer Affairs [2 releases]
- 1 Announcement of posthumous award of Medal of Honor to Staff Sgt. Peter S. Connor, USMC, with text of citation
- 1 Announcement of selection of the 1967 White House Fellows
- 1 Remarks at the reception for the 1966-1967 White House Fellows [2 releases]

May

- 2 Announcement of allocation of disaster relief funds following tornadoes in Illinois
- 2 Remarks upon presenting the Medal of Honor posthumously to Staff Sgt. Peter S. Connor, USMC [2 releases]
- 2 Letter to the President of the Senate requesting supplemental appropriations for summer youth programs
- 3 Remarks to the State Directors of the Selective Service System [2 releases]
- 3 Remarks at a dinner honoring John W. McCormack, Speaker of the House of Representatives
- 4 Special message to the Congress recommending procedures to complete collective bargaining in the railway labor dispute
- 4 Special message to the Congress transmitting reports on incentive awards to military personnel
- 5 Statement by the President on the "Share Your Summer" program for disadvantaged children
- 6 Remarks in Austin, Texas, at the unveiling of a bust of former Mayor Tom Miller [2 releases]
- 8 Remarks at a reception for participants in the Conference on Women in the War on Poverty [2 releases]
- 9 Remarks of welcome at the White House to Vice President C. K. Yen of the Republic of China [2 releases]
- 9 Toasts of the President and Vice President Yen [2 releases]
- 9 Statement by the President upon authorizing an agreement for a worldwide drug reaction monitoring system
- 9 Letter to the Secretary, HEW, delegating authority in connection with the worldwide drug reaction monitoring system
- 9 Remarks at the Democratic congressional dinner [2 releases]
- 10 Statement by the President on the proposed International Center for Advanced Study in the Health Sciences
- 10 Letter to the Speaker of the House transmitting appropriations request for the International Center for Advanced Study in the Health Sciences

Appendix A

May

- 10 Statement by the President upon signing bill authorizing increased appropriations for the Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands
- 10 Joint statement following discussions with Vice President Yen of the Republic of China
- 11 Message to the Congress transmitting 15th semi-annual report of the National Aeronautics and Space Administration
- 13 Remarks to the Lawyers Conference on Crime Control [2 releases]
- 15 Announcement of emergency board report in Long Island Rail Road labor dispute
- 15 Remarks in Windsor Locks, Conn., at the New England Governors Conference
- 15 Press briefing with the Governors following the New England Governors Conference
- 16 Statement by the President on the general agreement reached in the Kennedy Round trade negotiations at Geneva
- 17 Announcement of budget amendment requesting funds for Latin American development
- 19 Presidential Unit Citation awarded to 1st Squadron, 4th Cavalry, 1st Infantry Division, USA
- 19 Remarks upon signing bill providing for a desalting plant in Southern California [2 releases]
- 19 Remarks to State Committeemen and Executive Directors of the Agricultural Stabilization and Conservation Service [2 releases]
- 20 Announcement of U.S. delegation to attend U.S. National Day at EXPO '67
- 22 Announcement of budget amendments for certain functions of the Department of Transportation
- 22 Letter to the Speaker of the House transmitting proposed budget amendments for the Department of Transportation
- 23 Remarks to delegates to the International Conference on Water for Peace [2 releases]
- 23 Remarks upon presenting Presidential "E" Awards for excellence in developing new markets for exports [2 releases]

May

- 23 Announcement of budget amendment to augment the Great Plains Conservation Program
- 23 Statement by the President upon signing order establishing the President's Advisory Council on Cost Reduction
- 23 Statement by the President on rising tensions in the Near East
- 24 Remarks to a group of visiting Japanese Governors
- 24 Statement by the President upon awarding the Distinguished Service Medal to Maj. Gen. James W. Humphreys, Jr., USAF
- 24 Citation accompanying the above award
- 25 Special message to the Congress on election reform: The Political Process in America
- 25 Remarks in Montreal upon visiting EXPO '67 [2 releases]
- 25 Remarks in Montreal upon presenting the United States gift to the people of Canada [2 releases]
- 25 Press briefing in Montreal with Prime Minister Pearson of Canada
- 26 Memorandum on the need for action to prevent oil pollution of coastal waters
- 26 Announcement of selection of the 1967 Presidential Scholars
- 27 Remarks at the christening of the aircraft carrier U.S.S. *John F. Kennedy* [2 releases]
- 27 Statement by the President upon signing bill establishing the John Fitzgerald Kennedy National Historic Site
- 30 Exchange of Memorial Day messages with Chairman Thieu of the Republic of Vietnam
- 31 Message to the Congress transmitting annual report of the Railroad Retirement Board
- 31 Message to the Congress transmitting annual report on special international exhibitions

June

- 1 Announcement of budget amendment decreasing appropriation request for the Peace Corps

Appendix A

June

- 1 Remarks of welcome at the White House to Prime Minister Holt of Australia
- 1 Special message to the Congress transmitting Reorganization Plan 3 of 1967: Government of the District of Columbia
- 1 Toasts of the President and Prime Minister Holt of Australia
- 2 Remarks of welcome at the White House to Prime Minister Wilson of the United Kingdom [2 releases]
- 2 The President's toast at a dinner honoring Prime Minister Wilson of the United Kingdom
- 3 Remarks in New York City at the New York State Democratic dinner [2 releases]
- 3 Excerpts of remarks before young associate members of the President's Club
- 3 Statement by the President upon appointing the President's Committee on Urban Housing
- 5 Statement by the Press Secretary on the outbreak of fighting in the Middle East
- 5 Announcement of the President's acceptance of the resignation of Robert H. B. Baldwin as Under Secretary of the Navy
- 5 Statement to the press by Secretary Rusk on the situation in the Middle East
- 6 Statement to the press by Secretary Rusk on charges of U.S. participation in attacks on Egypt
- 6 Statement by the President on the need for legislation to prevent or minimize electric power blackouts
- 6 Statement by the President on the United Nations Security Council's cease-fire vote in the Middle East situation
- 7 Statement by the President upon establishing the National Security Council Special Committee on the Middle East
- 7 News briefing by the Press Secretary and McGeorge Bundy following the establishment of the National Security Council Special Committee on the Middle East
- 8 Toasts of the President and President Banda of the Republic of Malawi [2 releases]

June

- 8 Letter to Senator Mansfield on the situation in the Middle East
- 9 Remarks at the swearing in of Vicente T. Ximenes as a member of the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission [2 releases]
- 9 Announcement and text of special Cabinet report to the President "The Mexican American: A New Focus on Opportunity"
- 9 Memorandum establishing the Inter-Agency Committee on Mexican American Affairs
- 10 Announcement of resignation of Cyrus R. Vance as Deputy Secretary of Defense
- 12 Message to the Congress transmitting 11th annual report of the Surgeon General
- 12 Remarks to the National Legislative Conference, Building and Construction Trades Department, AFL-CIO [2 releases]
- 12 News briefing by General Walt following his report to the President on Vietnam
- 13 News briefing by the Postmaster General following the President's meeting with congressional Democratic leaders
- 13 Remarks at the graduation ceremony of the Capitol Page School [2 releases]
- 13 Remarks to the press announcing the nomination of Thurgood Marshall as Associate Justice of the Supreme Court
- 13 Statement by the President on accident prevention in the Federal Government
- 13 News briefing by the U.S. Ambassador to the U.S.S.R. following his meeting with the President
- 13 Remarks at a reception for the Presidential Scholars [2 releases]
- 14 Messages from Secretaries Rusk and McNamara on the threat of a national railway strike
- 14 Remarks to delegates to the National Rural Electric Cooperative Association Youth Conference [2 releases]
- 14 Remarks at the swearing in of Alexander B. Trowbridge as Secretary of Commerce [2 releases]

Appendix A

June

- 15 Remarks to the press announcing the nomination of Warren Christopher as Deputy Attorney General
- 16 Remarks at a Democratic Party dinner in Austin, Texas
- 17 The President's foreword to the report of the World Food Panel of the President's Science Advisory Committee
- 17 Announcement of report of World Food Panel of the President's Science Advisory Committee
- 19 Address at the State Department's Foreign Policy Conference for Educators [2 releases]
- 20 Announcement concerning scheduled discussions (U.S.-Philippines) on an instrument to replace the Laurel-Langley Trade Agreement
- 21 Announcement of the birth of the President's grandson
- 21 The President's telegram to his daughter Luci on the birth of his grandson Patrick Lyndon Nugent
- 21 Letter requesting a study of the status and needs of American museums
- 21 Remarks upon presenting the Young American Medals for bravery and service [2 releases]
- 21 Background information on the Young American Medal awards
- 21 Remarks to members of the National Council on Crime and Delinquency [2 releases]
- 22 Message to the Congress transmitting the second annual report of the Office of Economic Opportunity
- 22 The President's toast at a luncheon honoring visiting Danish, Italian, and British leaders
- 22 Press pool report on remarks by the President and visiting Danish, Italian, and British leaders
- 23 The President's toast at a luncheon honoring Chairman Kosygin of the Soviet Union, Glassboro, New Jersey
- 23 Remarks following the President's first meeting with Chairman Kosygin at Glassboro, New Jersey

June

- 23 Remarks at a President's Club dinner in Los Angeles
- 25 Remarks following the President's second meeting with Chairman Kosygin at Glassboro, New Jersey
- 25 The President's remarks upon arrival at the White House following the Glassboro meetings with Chairman Kosygin
- 26 Statement by the President upon signing bill providing funds for saline water conversion research
- 26 Statement by the President upon signing the Mental Health Amendments of 1967
- 26 News briefing by the Commissioner of Food and Drugs following a meeting with the President
- 26 Announcement of agreement on form and content of three proposed treaties, U.S.-Panama
- 27 Remarks in Baltimore to delegates to the National Convention of the United States Jaycees
- 27 Statement by the President upon providing for emergency relief assistance for war victims in the Middle East
- 27 Memorandum on the fundraising campaign in Federal agencies in the Washington metropolitan area
- 27 Remarks of welcome at the White House to the King and Queen of Thailand [2 releases]
- 27 Toasts of the President and the King of Thailand
- 28 White House statement on the status of Jerusalem
- 29 Remarks in Philadelphia at the Opportunities Industrialization Center [2 releases]
- 29 Statement by the President upon signing bill extending and enlarging the Teacher Corps
- 29 Joint statement following discussions with the King of Thailand
- 30 Statement by the President upon signing proclamation reducing the level of dairy imports
- 30 Statement by the President upon receiving the first annual report of the Citizens' Advisory Committee on Recreation and Natural Beauty

Appendix A

July

- 1 Remarks to the conference of Democratic Governors in St. Louis
- 1 Statement by the President on the first anniversary of Medicare
- 1 Statement by the President upon signing the Older Americans Act Amendments of 1967
- 3 Letter to the President of the Senate and to the Speaker of the House transmitting a report on strip and surface mining
- 4 Statement by the President: Independence Day
- 5 Presidential Unit Citation awarded to the 8th Airborne Battalion, Airborne Division, Army of the Republic of Vietnam
- 6 Statement by the President on the agreement with Mexico for an international flood control project on the Tijuana River
- 8 Statements by the President on Federal assistance programs for college students
- 11 Message to the Congress transmitting annual report of the Commodity Credit Corporation
- 11 Toasts of the President and former Chancellor Erhard of Germany [2 releases]
- 11 Statement by the President urging congressional support of the Reorganization Plan for the District of Columbia
- 12 Announcement of award of Distinguished Service Medal to Adm. David L. McDonald
- 12 Press briefing by Secretary McNamara following the return from his ninth trip to Vietnam
- 13 Remarks upon presenting Distinguished Service Medal to Adm. David L. McDonald [2 releases]
- 13 Citation accompanying Distinguished Service Medal awarded to Admiral McDonald
- 14 Announcement of report of National Advisory Commission on Food and Fiber with Secretary Freeman's letter of transmittal to the President
- 14 Memorandum from Budget Director on implementation of recommendations of Task Force on Federal Flood Control Policy
- 16 Announcement of the President's meeting with congressional leaders on the railroad strike

July

- 17 Letter to the Speaker of the House and to the Senate Majority Leader on the railroad strike
- 17 White House statement on the treatment of prisoners in Vietnam
- 17 Statement by the President upon signing joint resolution to provide for settlement of the railroad strike
- 18 Toasts of the President and President Asgeirsson of Iceland
- 18 Press briefing by Senator Morse upon his appointment to head the special board in the railroad strike
- 19 Message to the Congress transmitting National Science Foundation report on weather modification
- 19 Remarks at an award ceremony in connection with the Federal employee savings bond program [2 releases]
- 19 Statement by the President on the death of John T. McNaughton
- 19 Statement by the President on announcing the recipients of the President's Award for Distinguished Federal Civilian Service
- 20 Statement by the President on the failure of the House to act on the rat extermination act
- 21 Remarks following a tour of inspection at the National Institutes of Health, Bethesda, Md.
- 22 Statement by the President on the death of Carl Sandburg
- 24 Announcement of annual report of Board of Visitors to U.S. Naval Academy
- 24 Telegram from Governor Romney requesting Federal troops to assist in reestablishing law and order in Detroit
- 24 Telegram in reply to Governor Romney's request for Federal troop assistance in Detroit
- 24 Remarks to the Nation after authorizing the use of Federal troops in Detroit [2 releases]
- 26 Remarks to the delegates to Boys Nation [2 releases]
- 27 Remarks at the Department of Defense cost reduction ceremony [2 releases]

Appendix A

July

- 27 Telegram to Governor Romney and Mayor Cavanagh in reply to their request for disaster relief assistance in Detroit
- 27 The President's address to the Nation on civil disorders [2 releases]
- 28 Telegram to members of the National Advisory Commission on Civil Disorders
- 29 Remarks upon signing order establishing the National Advisory Commission on Civil Disorders [2 releases]
- 29 Statement by Cyrus Vance, Special Assistant to the Secretary of Defense at a White House press briefing following his report to the President
- 31 Memorandum from the Federal Radiation Council with the President's approval of the Council's recommendations

August

- 1 News conference of Governor Kerner, Chairman, National Advisory Commission on Civil Disorders, reporting on the Commission's Tuesday meetings
- 2 News conference of Governor Kerner, Chairman, National Advisory Commission on Civil Disorders, reporting on the Commission's Wednesday meetings
- 3 Special message to the Congress: The State of the Budget and the Economy
- 3 Remarks to the press after a meeting with Cyrus Vance and General Throckmorton on the situation in Detroit
- 3 News briefing by Cyrus Vance and General Throckmorton following their meeting with the President
- 4 Remarks to the delegates to Girls Nation [2 releases]
- 4 Remarks at the swearing in of Clifford L. Alexander as Chairman, Equal Employment Opportunity Commission [2 releases]
- 4 Presidential Unit Citation awarded the 2d Battalion (Airborne) 503d Infantry, 173d Airborne Brigade (Separate), USA, and attached units

August

- 5 Remarks at the swearing in of Warren Christopher as Deputy Attorney General of the United States [2 releases]
- 5 News briefing by Gen. Maxwell Taylor and Clark Clifford after meeting with the President on their trip to the Far East
- 7 Announcement of beginning of the 1968 (4th annual) White House Fellows Program
- 8 Message to the Congress transmitting 3d annual report of the Atlantic-Pacific Interoceanic Canal Study Commission
- 8 Announcement of 3d annual report of Atlantic-Pacific Interoceanic Canal Study Commission
- 8 Letter to the Speaker of the House urging support of the Reorganization Plan for the District of Columbia
- 9 Announcement of progress report by the Secretary, HEW, on actions taken on proposals by the National Conference on Medical Costs
- 9 Letter to Senate and House Committee Chairmen recommending measures to expand the guaranteed loan program for college students
- 9 Statement by the President following action in the House of Representatives on the Reorganization Plan for the District of Columbia
- 10 Letter from the National Advisory Commission on Civil Disorders recommending actions to be taken with respect to the Army National Guard and the Air National Guard
- 11 Announcement of the President's final informal meeting with the second (1966) group of White House Fellows
- 11 Remarks to the press following a meeting with the U.S. Representative to the Eighteen-Nation Disarmament Committee in Geneva
- 11 Statement by the President on the new Government of the District of Columbia
- 11 Statement by the President upon announcing the appointment of the members of the Consumer Advisory Council
- 12 Veto of a bill to increase life insurance coverage for Government employees, officials, and Members of Congress
- 12 News briefing by Gen. Harold K. Johnson, Army Chief of Staff, following his return from Vietnam

Appendix A

August

- 12 News briefing by John W. Macy, Jr., and Joseph A. Califano, Jr., on the veto of the Government employees insurance bill
- 14 Message to the Congress transmitting annual report on the international educational and cultural exchange program
- 14 Statement by the President upon directing expanded efforts to assist returning veterans to find suitable employment
- 14 Special message to the Congress on communications policy
- 15 Remarks of welcome at the White House to Chancellor Kiesinger of Germany [2 releases]
- 15 Remarks of the President and Chancellor Kiesinger reporting to the press on their meeting
- 15 Toasts of the President and Chancellor Kiesinger of Germany [2 releases]
- 16 Letter to the President of the Senate and to the Speaker of the House recommending legislation to provide for an elected school board in the District of Columbia
- 16 Joint statement following discussions with Chancellor Kiesinger of Germany
- 16 Remarks upon presenting the Vietnam Civilian Service Awards [2 releases]
- 16 Letter to the Senate Majority Leader urging enactment and funding of programs for the cities
- 16 Statement by the President: Labor Day
- 17 Memorandum to Secretary Weaver on the need for a pilot program to stimulate private enterprise in low-income housing
- 17 Announcement of disaster relief funds for Alaska
- 17 Toasts of the President and President Houphouët-Boigny of the Ivory Coast [2 releases]
- 17 Announcement of Medal of Honor ceremony for Gunnery Sgt. Jimmie E. Howard, USMC, with text of citation
- 17 Remarks at a ceremony in observance of the sixth anniversary of the Alliance for Progress [2 releases]
- 19 Announcement of Presidential Unit Citation to be awarded to 1st Cavalry Division (Airmobile) and attached units

August

- 19 Statement by the President upon signing bill extending the urban studies fellowship program
- 21 Letter to the President of the Senate and to the Speaker of the House on the status of the Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands
- 21 Remarks upon presenting the Medal of Honor to Gunnery Sgt. Jimmie E. Howard, USMC [2 releases]
- 21 Statement by the President upon signing appropriations bill for the National Aeronautics and Space Administration
- 22 Memorandum from the Vice President on the summer youth opportunity program in the District of Columbia
- 22 Remarks of welcome at the White House to the Shah of Iran [2 releases]
- 22 Toasts of the President and His Imperial Majesty Mohammad Reza Pahlavi, Shah of Iran [2 releases]
- 23 Remarks to participants in the 12th annual program of the Council of International Programs for Youth Leaders and Social Workers [2 releases]
- 23 News briefing by Stanford Smith of the American Newspaper Publishers Association following his return from Vietnam
- 23 News briefing by the Secretary of Agriculture and the Under Secretary of State on their reports at a Cabinet meeting
- 23 Joint statement following discussions with the Shah of Iran
- 24 Statement by the President on the Eighteen-Nation Disarmament Committee's draft treaty on nuclear nonproliferation
- 24 News briefing by Governor Docking of Kansas following his return from Vietnam
- 25 Message on the death of Henry J. Kaiser
- 25 News briefing by Lt. Gen. Stanley Larsen following his return from Vietnam
- 28 Letter to the President of the Senate and to the Speaker of the House transmitting final report on earthquake recovery assistance to Alaska

Appendix A

August

- 28 News briefing by Ambassador Lodge following his designation as coordinator of U.S. observers of the elections in Vietnam
- 28 Statement by the President following Senate committee action on the model cities and rent supplement programs
- 28 Remarks at a news briefing following the announcement of the creation of a new international monetary reserve asset
- 28 Statement by the President on the new international monetary reserve asset
- 30 Statement by the President upon directing the development of a new community on the site of the National Training School in Washington
- 30 Remarks at a meeting with the President's Committee on Mental Retardation to receive the Committee's first report
- 31 Remarks upon signing the Veterans' Pension and Readjustment Assistance Act of 1967

September

- 1 Statement by the President on authorizing an agreement providing for additional wheat shipments to India
- 2 Statement by the President: Labor Day, 1967
- 6 Remarks to the press upon announcing intention to nominate Commissioner of the District of Columbia and Assistant to the Commissioner
- 6 Statement by the President on his intention to nominate Walter E. Washington and Thomas W. Fletcher as Commissioner of the District of Columbia and Assistant to the Commissioner
- 6 Press pool summary of the Vietnam election observers report to the President
- 6 Cabinet report on the state of the economy by the Chairman, Council of Economic Advisers
- 7 Statement by the President upon signing bill to strengthen the college work-study program
- 8 Memorandum on employee-management cooperation in the Federal Government
- 12 News briefing by Secretary Weaver and Joseph A. Califano, Jr., on the low-income housing program

September

- 12 News briefing by the Chairman, Inter-Agency Committee on Mexican American Affairs
- 13 Excerpts from remarks at a meeting with insurance executives to discuss their plans for participation in urban programs
- 13 News briefing by Gilbert Fitzhugh, Chairman, Life Insurance Committee on Urban Problems, Secretary Weaver, and Joseph A. Califano, Jr.
- 13 The President's toast at a luncheon honoring the Japanese cabinet ministers attending the meeting of the Joint U.S.-Japan Committee on Trade and Economic Affairs
- 13 Announcement of ceremony and text of citation accompanying Presidential Unit Citation awarded to 1st Cavalry Division (Airmobile) and attached units
- 14 Remarks in Kansas City, Mo., at the meeting of the International Association of Chiefs of Police [2 releases]
- 15 Citation accompanying National Security Medal awarded posthumously to Desmond FitzGerald
- 15 Remarks upon presenting the Presidential Unit Citation to the 1st Cavalry Division (Airmobile) and attached units [2 releases]
- 15 Letter to the President of the Senate and to the Speaker of the House of Representatives urging enactment of gun control legislation
- 15 The President's remarks at a news briefing by members of the special railroad board on their final recommendations
- 17 Remarks at the memorial service for Carl Sandburg
- 18 Announcement of "Employer of the Year" awards ceremony
- 18 Remarks at "Employer of the Year" ceremony honoring outstanding employers of the handicapped
- 18 Remarks of welcome at the White House to President Saragat of Italy [2 releases]
- 19 Joint statement following discussions with the President of Italy
- 19 Toasts of the President and President Saragat of Italy [2 releases]

Appendix A

September

- 20 Letter to the Secretary of Transportation on the need for expanding and improving the air traffic control system
- 20 Announcement of designation of U.S. panel members of the International Center for the Settlement of Investment Disputes
- 22 Remarks to representatives of national voluntary organizations concerned with consumer interests [2 releases]
- 22 Remarks upon signing bill authorizing U.S. contribution to the Inter-American Development Bank [2 releases]
- 22 Remarks at a luncheon honoring the foreign ministers attending a meeting of the Organization of American States [2 releases]
- 22 Statement by the President upon announcing appointments to the National Advisory Council authorized by the Education Professions Development Act of 1967
- 22 Remarks to representatives of national fraternal organizations [2 releases]
- 25 Message to the Congress transmitting annual report of the Saint Lawrence Seaway Development Corporation
- 26 Letter to the Chairman, Senate Committee on the District of Columbia, on the need for an elected school board in Washington
- 26 Remarks of welcome at the White House to President Diori of the Republic of Niger [2 releases]
- 26 Special message to the Congress proposing a U.S. contribution to the "Special Funds" of the Asian Development Bank
- 26 Remarks recorded in connection with the 1968 United Community Campaigns of America
- 26 Toasts of the President and President Diori of the Republic of Niger [2 releases]
- 27 Remarks to the press by the President and Foreign Secretary George Brown of the United Kingdom following their meeting
- 27 Announcement of Medal of Honor ceremony for Sgt. David Charles Dolby, USA, with text of citation
- 27 Remarks upon signing bill to extend the Food Stamp Act of 1964 [2 releases]

September

- 28 Remarks at the swearing in of Walter E. Washington and Thomas W. Fletcher as Commissioner of the District of Columbia and Assistant to the Commissioner [2 releases]
- 28 Remarks upon presenting the Medal of Honor to Sgt. David C. Dolby, USA [2 releases]
- 28 Fact sheet on Hurricane Beulah
- 29 Address on Vietnam before the National Legislative Conference, San Antonio, Texas [2 releases]
- 29 Remarks by Mrs. Johnson, National Legislative Conference, San Antonio
- 30 Statement by the President upon signing the Department of Defense Appropriation Act, 1968

October

- 2 Memorandum on inaugurating a test program to reduce hard-core unemployment
- 2 News briefing by Col. Robin Olds, USAF, following his return from Vietnam
- 3 Remarks upon signing the Vocational Rehabilitation Act Amendments of 1967 [2 releases]
- 4 Statement by the President on asking for a report on the economic condition of the textile and apparel industries
- 4 Remarks at a national conference of cooperative organizations [2 releases]
- 5 Statement by the President following the return of a mission to survey the scientific and technological assets and needs of the Republic of China
- 6 Letter to the President of the Senate and to the Speaker of the House proposing additions to the National Wilderness Preservation System
- 6 Statement by the President upon appointing a National Advisory Commission on Health Facilities
- 6 Remarks to officials of the Federal Home Loan Bank System in connection with the observance of the System's 35th anniversary [2 releases]
- 7 Remarks at a "Salute to the President" Democratic Party dinner in Washington [2 releases]
- 8 Statement by the President on the death of Clement Attlee

Appendix A

October

- 8 Remarks to delegates to the International Conference on the World Crisis in Education, Williamsburg, Va. [2 releases]
- 9 Presidential Unit Citation awarded to Detachment ALFA, Mine Squadron Eleven, USN
- 10 Remarks at ceremony marking the entry into force of the Outer Space Treaty [2 releases]
- 10 Remarks of the Soviet and British Ambassadors and of Secretary Rusk at the Outer Space Treaty ceremony
- 10 Toasts of the President and General Ankrah, Chairman, National Liberation Council of the Republic of Ghana [2 releases]
- 10 White House press statement following the President's meeting with Tun Tan Siew Sin, Minister of Finance of Malaysia
- 11 Statement by the President upon signing the Small Business Act Amendments of 1967
- 11 Announcement of report of Board of Visitors, U.S. Air Force Academy
- 12 Statement by the President on taking "escape clause" tariff actions on typewriter ribbon cloth, stainless steel flatware, sheet glass, and certain carpets
- 12 The President's telegrams to the participating teams on the final day of the 1967 World Series
- 12 Remarks at a meeting with the President's Committee on Consumer Interests
- 13 Remarks upon presenting the Harmon International Aviation Trophies [2 releases]
- 16 Statement by the President upon announcing plans to employ medically trained veterans in civilian health occupations
- 16 News briefing by Dr. Walter Judd following his report to the President on Vietnam
- 17 Remarks of welcome at the White House to Prime Minister Lee of Singapore [2 releases]
- 17 The President's toast at a dinner honoring Prime Minister Lee [2 releases]
- 18 Joint statement following discussions with Prime Minister Lee of Singapore
- 18 Joint statement on economic cooperation between Puerto Rico and the Dominican Republic

October

- 19 Announcement of Medal of Honor ceremony for Maj. Howard V. Lee, USMC
- 20 Statement by the President on the death of Shigeru Yoshida
- 20 Toasts of the President and Prime Minister Souvanna Phouma of Laos [2 releases]
- 20 White House statement following the President's meeting with Prime Minister Souvanna Phouma of Laos
- 21 Statement by the President upon signing the Military Construction Authorization Act, 1968
- 23 Announcement concerning the Vice President's itinerary on forthcoming trip to Southeast Asia
- 23 Memorandum following the peace demonstrations at the Lincoln Memorial and the Pentagon
- 23 Remarks before the International Federation of of Commercial, Clerical, and Technical Employees [2 releases]
- 23 Remarks at the swearing in of Erwin N. Griswold as Solicitor General of the United States [2 releases]
- 23 Announcement of order providing for Tariff Commission reports on consumption of brooms
- 24 Toasts of the President and President Ahidjo of Cameroon [2 releases]
- 25 Message to the Congress transmitting 11th annual report on the Trade Agreements Program, 1966
- 25 Remarks upon presenting the Medal of Honor to Maj. Howard V. Lee, USMC [2 releases]
- 25 Background on Chamizal ceremony
- 26 Remarks of welcome at the White House to President Diaz Ordaz of Mexico [2 releases]
- 26 Official delegation to participate in the Chamizal ceremony
- 26 Remarks at a ceremony for the awarding of honorary degrees to President Johnson and President Diaz Ordaz of Mexico [2 releases]
- 26 Toasts of the President and President Diaz Ordaz [2 releases]
- 27 Remarks at the dedication of the Theodore Roosevelt Memorial in Washington

Appendix A

October

- 27 Announcement of the signing of a document concluding the legal requirements for the relocation of the U.S.-Mexican border under the Chamizal Convention
- 27 Joint statement following discussions with President Diaz Ordaz of Mexico
- 27 Remarks of Secretary Rusk upon approving final document concluding the legal requirements for the relocation of the U.S.-Mexican border under the Chamizal Convention
- 28 Remarks to the delegates to the Mexican-American Conference, El Paso, Texas [2 releases]
- 28 Remarks at the Chamizal ceremony, Juarez, Mexico [2 releases]
- 28 Text of the Chamizal Declaration recognizing the transfer of lands between the United States and Mexico at El Paso and Ciudad Juarez
- 30 Message to the American Bar Association's Special Committee on Crime Prevention and Control
- 31 Presidential Unit Citation awarded to Third Marine Division, Reinforced, Fleet Marine Force Pacific
- 31 Presidential Unit Citation awarded to the 7th Airborne Battalion, Airborne Division, Army of the Republic of Vietnam
- 31 Memorandum in response to task force report "Reducing Federal Grant-in-Aid Processing Time"

November

- 1 Remarks of welcome at the White House to King Mahendra of Nepal [2 releases]
- 1 Toasts of the President and King Mahendra of Nepal [2 releases]
- 1 Joint statement following discussions with King Mahendra of Nepal
- 2 Statement by the President on the report "Social and Economic Conditions of Negroes in the United States"
- 2 Message greeting members of the Foreign Service on Foreign Service Day
- 2 Remarks to the delegates to the 1967 Consumer Assembly [2 releases]

November

- 3 Remarks at the swearing in of the members of the new District of Columbia Council [2 releases]
- 3 Statement by the President upon signing the Independent Offices and Department of Housing and Urban Development Appropriation Act, 1968
- 4 Statement by the President upon signing bill prohibiting obstruction of criminal investigations
- 6 Message to the Congress transmitting annual report on U.S. food aid programs
- 6 Statement by the President concerning a gift permitting construction of an addition to the National Gallery of Art
- 7 Statement by the President on the death of John Nance Garner
- 7 Message to President Podgorny on the occasion of the 50th anniversary of the establishment of the Soviet Government
- 7 Statement by the President on the development of a multinational program for science and technology in Latin America
- 7 Remarks upon signing the Public Broadcasting Act of 1967 [2 releases]
- 8 Remarks upon signing bill providing equal opportunity in promotions for women in the Armed Forces [2 releases]
- 8 Statement by the President on the new International Grains Arrangement
- 8 Message to the Congress transmitting the Surgeon General's first report on regional medical programs
- 8 Statement by the President upon signing order enlarging the Federal Council for Science and Technology
- 9 Statement by the President upon signing the Departments of Labor, and Health, Education, and Welfare Appropriation Act, 1968
- 9 The President's toast at a luncheon in honor of Crown Prince Vong Savang of Laos [2 releases]
- 9 Statement by the President upon signing the Departments of State, Justice, and Commerce, the Judiciary, and Related Agencies Appropriation Act, 1968
- 9 Statement by the President on the successful launching of the first Saturn V rocket

Appendix A

November

- 9 Remarks in New York City at the Jewish Labor Committee dinner honoring George Meany [2 releases]
- 10 Remarks at Doughboy Stadium, Fort Benning, Ga. [2 releases]
- 10 Remarks at El Toro Marine Corps Air Station, Santa Ana, Calif. [2 releases]
- 10 Remarks at Camp Pendleton, Calif. [2 releases]
- 10 Remarks to wounded veterans at the Naval Hospital, Camp Pendleton, Calif.
- 11 Remarks at sunrise ceremonies on the flight deck of the U.S.S. *Enterprise* [2 releases]
- 11 Remarks at McConnell Air Force Base, Kans. [2 releases]
- 11 Remarks at Langley Air Force Base, Va. [2 releases]
- 11 Remarks at Yorktown Coast Guard Station, Va. [2 releases]
- 13 News briefing on Vietnam by Ambassador Ellsworth Bunker
- 14 Remarks of welcome at the White House to Prime Minister Sato of Japan
- 14 Announcement of Medal of Honor ceremony for Staff Sgt. Charles B. Morris, USA
- 14 Toasts of the President and Prime Minister Sato of Japan [2 releases]
- 15 Message to the Congress transmitting report on United States participation in the United Nations, 1966
- 15 Statement by the President upon signing the Foreign Assistance Act of 1967
- 15 Remarks delivered by telephone to a joint convention of educational leaders [2 releases]
- 15 Citation awarded to the President for his contributions in the field of higher education
- 15 Joint statement following discussions with Prime Minister Sato of Japan
- 15 The President's remarks to reporters following his meeting with Prime Minister Sato
- 15 Remarks at a reception for leaders of veterans organizations

November

- 16 Announcement of appointment of Industry-Government Special Task Force to improve the balance of payments with respect to travel
- 16 Remarks upon presenting the Medal of Honor to Staff Sgt. Charles B. Morris, USA [2 releases]
- 18 Remarks delivered by telephone to the centennial convention of the National Grange [2 releases]
- 18 Statement by the President on the devaluation of the British pound
- 20 Remarks at a ceremony marking the birth of the 200 millionth American [2 releases]
- 20 Remarks upon signing bill establishing the National Commission on Product Safety [2 releases]
- 20 Remarks to the press on making public the report of the National Advisory Commission on Health Manpower
- 20 Announcement of report of National Advisory Commission on Health Manpower
- 20 Statement by the President on the fourth anniversary of the death of John F. Kennedy
- 20 Remarks at a dinner honoring Senator Everett McKinley Dirksen [2 releases]
- 21 Remarks upon signing the Air Quality Act of 1967 [2 releases]
- 21 Announcement of election of Ambassador Edwin M. Martin as Chairman of the Development Assistance Committee of the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development
- 22 Memorandum urging continued improvement of programs in aid of small business
- 22 Statement by the President following Senate approval of the bill to increase Social Security benefits
- 22 Announcement of designation of Cyrus R. Vance to consult with Greek and Turkish leaders on the situation in Cyprus
- 24 Statement by the President upon signing bills authorizing sale of surplus bismuth, molybdenum, and rare earths
- 24 Statement by the President upon signing the Library Services and Construction Act Amendments

Appendix A

November

- 24 Announcement of annual report of Board of Visitors to U.S. Military Academy
- 25 Announcement of intention to increase the number of Federal one-stop information centers
- 25 Report to the President by the White House legislative staff on the legislative record
- 27 Special message to the Congress transmitting multilateral trade agreement concluding the Kennedy Round of trade negotiations
- 27 Announcement and summary of volume III of the report of the World Food Panel, President's Science Advisory Committee
- 29 Announcement of donation to the United States by General and Mrs. Dwight D. Eisenhower of their farm and house at Gettysburg, Pa.
- 29 Statement by the President on the completion of the Agency for International Development program in Iran
- 29 Statement by the President commending NEED for its work in aiding victims of the 6-day war in the Middle East
- 29 Statement by the President on the nomination of Secretary McNamara as President of the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development
- 30 Remarks at the swearing in of Howard J. Samuels as Under Secretary of Commerce [2 releases]

December

- 1 Statement by the President on the death of Dr. Alan T. Waterman
- 2 Remarks delivered by telephone to the Regional Democratic Conference in Charleston, W. Va. [2 releases]
- 2 Remarks transmitted by closed-circuit television to ceremonies marking the 25th anniversary of the first nuclear reactor [2 releases]
- 2 News briefing by Ambassador at Large W. Averell Harriman following his visit to Pakistan, Iran, Afghanistan, Yugoslavia, and Romania
- 2 Statement by the President on the death of Francis Cardinal Spellman, Archbishop of New York
- 4 Remarks upon signing the Mental Retardation Amendments of 1967

December

- 4 Remarks to the Foreign Policy Conference for Business Executives [2 releases]
- 5 Remarks upon signing the Partnership for Health Amendments of 1967
- 5 Statement by the President on the preservation of peace in Cyprus
- 5 Statement by Cyrus R. Vance following his meeting with the President on the Cyprus settlement
- 5 Statement by the President on the meat inspection bill
- 6 Statement by the President on the death of President Oscar Gestido of Uruguay
- 6 Announcement of delegation to attend the inauguration of President Tubman of Liberia
- 6 News briefing by David Lilienthal following his report to the President on Vietnam
- 6 News briefing by John W. Macy, Jr., on efforts to improve Government services to the public
- 6 Press pool report on a meeting of the Cabinet
- 6 Remarks at a meeting of the Business Council
- 7 Remarks recorded for a television program on the report of the National Advisory Commission on Food and Fiber
- 8 The President's remarks at a news briefing by Ambassador Eugenie Anderson on civil programs in Vietnam
- 8 Statement by the President upon signing bill establishing the Judge Advocate General's Corps, USN
- 9 Veto of bill granting masters of vessels a lien on those vessels for their wages and certain disbursements
- 9 Letter from the Secretary of Agriculture transmitting report of the National Advisory Commission on Rural Poverty
- 9 Television interview with the President and Mrs. Johnson recorded in connection with the wedding of their daughter Lynda Bird
- 11 Statement by the President urging passage of the Safe Streets and Crime Control Act
- 12 Statement by the President on the use of surplus Federal lands for model communities in Atlanta and San Antonio

Appendix A

December

- 12 Remarks at the dedication of Central Texas College, Killeen, Texas [2 releases]
- 12 Remarks following an inspection of NASA's Michoud Assembly Facility near New Orleans [2 releases]
- 12 Remarks to delegates to the National Convention, AFL-CIO [2 releases]
- 12 Statement by the President upon signing bill naming a Federal office building in Detroit in memory of Senator Patrick V. McNamara
- 13 Remarks by the President at a press briefing by Col. Daniel James, Jr., USAF following his report on Vietnam
- 13 Remarks upon signing bill amending the Federal Credit Union Act [2 releases]
- 14 Remarks at the presentation of the papers of President Andrew Johnson
- 14 Remarks upon signing bill amending the Flammable Fabrics Act [2 releases]
- 14 Remarks at the Smithsonian Institution at a ceremony marking the 200th anniversary of the Encyclopaedia Britannica [2 releases]
- 15 Remarks upon signing bill amending the Meat Inspection Act [2 releases]
- 15 Statement by the President upon authorizing Federal assistance to the New Haven Railroad
- 15 Statement by the President on the forthcoming retirement of Prime Minister Lester Pearson of Canada
- 15 Announcement of presentation to the President of a plaque in recognition of his contribution in the field of immigration and civil rights
- 15 Remarks at the lighting of the Nation's Christmas tree [2 releases]
- 16 News briefing by Lawrence F. O'Brien, Joseph A. Califano, Jr., Mike N. Manatos, and Harold Barefoot Sanders
- 16 Remarks upon signing the Kennedy Round trade negotiations proclamation [2 releases]
- 16 Remarks upon signing bills increasing the pay of Federal civilian employees and of members of the uniformed services [2 releases]

December

- 16 Statement by the President after signing bill for the acquisition of lands for migratory waterfowl refugees
- 16 Statement by the President after signing the Age Discrimination in Employment Act of 1967
- 16 Final White House report on the legislative record of the first session of the 90th Congress
- 16 The President's Christmas message to the men and women of the Armed Forces
- 18 Statement by the President on the death of Prime Minister Harold Holt of Australia [2 releases]
- 18 Interview for the Australian Broadcasting Company following the death of Prime Minister Holt
- 18 Telegram on the occasion of the Silver Bridge tragedy, West Virginia-Ohio
- 19 Statement by the President upon signing bill establishing the National Park Foundation
- 19 "A Conversation With the President," joint interview for use by the television networks
- 19 The President's remarks upon arrival in Honolulu at the beginning of his round-the-world trip
- 19 Statement by the President after signing joint resolution providing for continuing appropriations, fiscal year 1968
- 19 Statement by the President on the United Nations agreement for the rescue and return of astronauts and space objects
- 20 Statement by the President upon establishing a task force to conduct a national survey of bridge safety
- 20 Remarks at the airport in Pago Pago, American Samoa
- 20 Statement by the President upon signing bill to establish the Federal Judicial Center
- 21 Remarks upon arrival in Canberra, Australia, to attend memorial services for Prime Minister Holt
- 21 Joint statement following discussions in Canberra with Prime Minister McEwen of Australia
- 21 Joint statement following discussions in Canberra with President Pak of Korea

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- 21 Joint statement following discussions in Canberra with President Thieu of Vietnam
- 23 Remarks to a group of American combat pilots at the Royal Thai Air Force Base, Khorat, Thailand
- 23 Remarks to senior unit commanders, Cam Ranh Bay, Vietnam
- 23 Remarks to service personnel and award of Distinguished Service Medal and Medal of Freedom to military and civilian leaders, Cam Ranh Bay, Vietnam [2 releases]
- 23 Statement by the President upon signing bill increasing benefits for Federal employees in hazardous duty posts
- 23 Joint statement following discussions in Karachi with President Ayub of Pakistan
- 23 Statement by the President upon arriving in Rome
- 23 Statement by the President following his meeting at the Vatican with Pope Paul VI
- 23 Statement by the President upon his departure from Italy
- 24 The President's Christmas message to the Nation upon returning from his round-the-world trip
- 26 Memorandum of disapproval of bill for the relief of Dr. George H. Edler

December

- 27 Statement by the President upon signing bill providing for District of Columbia participation in the Medicaid program
- 27 Statement by the President upon signing the District of Columbia crime bill
- 28 Announcement of report on the vocational rehabilitation program
- 28 Announcement of scheduled meeting of the Joint U.S.-Japan Committee on Trade and Economic Affairs
- 29 Statement by the President upon signing order relating to Federal participation in regional economic development
- 29 News briefing by Dr. Christiaan Barnard following his meeting with the President
- 30 Announcement of resignation of William H. Shaw as Assistant Secretary of Commerce for Economic Affairs
- 30 Announcement of 1967 recipients of the National Medal of Science
- 30 Message to the Governor-General of Canada on the death of Vincent Massey
- 31 Transcript of television interview of Press Secretary George Christian on "Face the Nation"

Appendix B—Presidential Documents Published in the Federal Register

PROCLAMATIONS

<i>No.</i>	<i>Date</i>	<i>Subject</i>	<i>32 F.R.</i>
	<i>1967</i>		<i>page</i>
3760	Jan. 6	American History Month	309
3761	Jan. 11	Correction of error in Tariff Schedules of United States concerning watch movements and termination of increased duties on watch movements	357
3762	Jan. 11	Reduction of increased duties on imports of sheet glass	361
3763	Jan. 24	American Heart Month, 1967	965
3764	Jan. 24	National Safe Boating Week, 1967	967
3765	Jan. 30	Red Cross Month, 1967	1167
3766	Feb. 14	National Defense Transportation Day and National Transportation Week, 1967	3131
3767	Feb. 14	National Poison Prevention Week, 1967	3133
3768	Feb. 16	National Farm Safety Week, 1967	3135
3769	Mar. 4	Save Your Vision Week, 1967	3809
3770	Mar. 10	Law Day, U.S.A., 1967	4111
3771	Mar. 24	World Trade Week, 1967	5241
3772	Mar. 24	Youth Temperance Education Week	5243
3773	Mar. 30	Senior Citizens Month, 1967	5491
3774	Mar. 31	Pan American Day and Pan American Week, 1967	5539
3775	Apr. 6	Loyalty Day, 1967	5761
3776	Apr. 7	Cancer Control Month, 1967	5763
3777	Apr. 7	National CARIH Asthma Week	5915
3778	Apr. 8	Steelmark Month	5917
3779	Apr. 10	Modifying Proclamation No. 3279 adjusting imports of petroleum and petroleum products	5919
3780	Apr. 15	Discover America Planning Week	6125
3781	Apr. 27	Rush-Bagot Agreement Days	6757
3782	May 9	National Maritime Day, 1967	7167
3783	May 9	Small Business Week, 1967	7169

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3784	May 10	Mother's Day, 1967	7203
3785	May 22	Prayer For Peace, Memorial Day, 1967	7621
3786	May 24	Citizenship Day and Constitution Week, 1967	7801
3787	May 29	White Cane Safety Day, 1967	8017
3788	June 10	Flag Day and National Flag Week, 1967	8465
3789	June 15	National Coal Week	8749
3790	June 30	Proclamation amending part 3 of the appendix to the Tariff Schedules of the United States with respect to the importation of agricultural commodities . .	9803
3791	July 3	World Law Day, 1967	10047
3792	July 12	Copyright extension: Germany	10341
3793	July 12	Captive Nations Week, 1967	10343
3794	July 17	Modifying Proclamation No. 3279 adjusting imports of petroleum and petro- leum products	10547
3795	July 24	Law and order in the State of Michigan	10905
3796	July 27	National Day of Prayer for Reconciliation	11071
3797	Aug. 1	United Nations Day, 1967	11259
3798	Aug. 2	Fire Prevention Week, 1967	11373
3799	Aug. 12	American Education Week, 1967	11729
3800	Aug. 18	Thirtieth Anniversary of the Bonneville Project Act	12035
3801	Aug. 25	"Stay in School"	12469
3802	Aug. 28	National Employ the Physically Handicapped Week, 1967	12547
3803	Aug. 30	National School Lunch Week, 1967	12663
3804	Sept. 23	National Highway Week, 1967	13441
3805	Sept. 25	Veterans Day, 1967	13481
3806	Sept. 25	Child Health Day, 1967	13483
3807	Sept. 26	General Pulaski's Memorial Day, 1967	13485
3808	Sept. 27	Leif Erikson Day, 1967	13633
3809	Sept. 28	National Farm-City Week, 1967	13693
3810	Oct. 2	National Forest Products Week, 1967	13799
3811	Oct. 3	Fiftieth anniversary of the Langley Research Center	13853
3812	Oct. 6	National Day of Prayer, 1967	14015

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<i>No.</i>	<i>Date 1967</i>	<i>Subject</i>	<i>32 F.R. page</i>
3813	Oct. 9	Columbus Day, 1967	14089
3814	Oct. 11	Human Rights Week and Human Rights Year	14193
3815	Oct. 11	Extension of increased duty on imports of carpets and rugs	14195
3816	Oct. 11	Extension of remaining increased duties on imports of sheet glass	14197
3817	Oct. 27	National UNICEF Day	15001
3818	Nov. 6	Termination of further staging of certain concessions in interim trade agreements with Canada, the United Kingdom, and Japan	15467
3819	Nov. 9	Thanksgiving Day, 1967	15667
3820	Nov. 9	Modifying Proclamation No. 3279 adjusting imports of petroleum and petroleum products	15701
3821	Dec. 6	Wright Brothers Day, 1967	17571
3822	Dec. 16	Proclamation to carry out Geneva (1967) protocol to the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade and other agreements	19002

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11322	Jan. 5	Relating to trade and other transactions involving Southern Rhodesia	119
11323	Jan. 20	Placing an additional position in Level V of the Federal Executive Salary Schedule	777
11324	Jan. 28	Creating an emergency board to investigate disputes between the carriers represented by the National Railway Labor Conference and certain of their employees	1075
11325	Jan. 30	Prescribing a new part of the Selective Service regulations	1119
11326	Feb. 13	Providing for the regulation of air transportation in the Ryukyu Islands . . .	2841
11327	Feb. 15	Assigning authority to order certain persons in the Ready Reserve to active duty	2995
11328	Feb. 20	Modifying Executive Order No. 11198, relating to the interest equalization tax on certain commercial bank loans	3137
11329	Mar. 2	Creating a board of inquiry to report on a labor dispute affecting the shipbuilding and repair industries of the United States	3811
11330	Mar. 5	Providing for the coordination of youth opportunity programs	3871
11331	Mar. 6	Establishment of the Pacific Northwest River Basins Commission	3875
11332	Mar. 7	Inspection of income, excess-profits, estate, and gift tax returns by the Committee on Government Operations, House of Representatives	3877
11333	Mar. 7	Partially suspending section 6374 of Title 10 of the United States Code, relating to retirement of brigadier generals of the Marine Corps	3879

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11334	Mar. 7	Enjoyment of certain privileges, exemptions, and immunities by the Asian Development Bank and coordination of United States policies with regard to the Bank	3933
11335	Mar. 9	Placing an additional position in Level V of the Federal Executive Salary Schedule	3965
11336	Mar. 22	Delegating to the Secretary of Agriculture certain authority relating to emergency livestock feed	4489
11337	Mar. 25	Inspection of income, excess-profits, estate, and gift tax returns by the Senate Committee on Government Operations	5245
11338	Mar. 27	Placing an additional position in Level V of the Federal Executive Salary Schedule	5247
11339	Mar. 28	Delegating certain authority of the President with regard to Army and Air Force rations	5321
11340	Mar. 30	Effective date of Department of Transportation Act	5453
11341	Apr. 8	Establishing the President's Commission on Postal Organization	5765
11342	Apr. 10	Quetico-Superior Committee	5827
11343	Apr. 12	Creating an emergency board to investigate the disputes between the Long Island Rail Road and certain of its employees	6085
11344	Apr. 15	Creating a board of inquiry to report on a labor dispute affecting the military aircraft industry and the military aircraft engine industry of the United States	6173
11345	Apr. 20	Establishment of the Great Lakes Basin Commission	6329
11346	Apr. 20	Placing an additional position in Level V of the Federal Executive Salary Schedule	6331
11347	Apr. 20	Amendment of Executive Order No. 11210, establishing a Temporary Commission on Pennsylvania Avenue	6333
11348	Apr. 20	Providing for the further training of Government employees	6335
11349	May 1	Amending Executive Order No. 11136, relating to the President's Committee on Consumer Interests and the Consumer Advisory Council	6759
11350	May 3	Amending the Selective Service regulations	6961
11351	May 22	Amending Executive Order No. 11318, designating the European Space Research Organization as a public international organization	7561
11352	May 22	Suspending a provision of section 5751(b) of Title 10, United States Code, which relates to officers of the Marine Corps in the grade of lieutenant colonel	7563
11353	May 23	Establishing the President's Advisory Council on Cost Reduction	7623
11354	May 23	Amending Executive Order No. 11030 of June 19, 1962, with respect to the preparation of Presidential proclamations	7695

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<i>No.</i>	<i>Date</i> <i>1967</i>	<i>Subject</i>	<i>32 F.R.</i> <i>page</i>
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11356	May 30	Creating an emergency board to investigate disputes between the carriers represented by the National Railway Labor Conference and certain of their employees	8019
11357	June 6	Administration of the National Traffic and Motor Vehicle Safety Act through the National Highway Safety Bureau and its Director	8225
11358	June 6	Inspection of income, excess-profits, estate, and gift tax returns by the Committee on Un-American Activities, House of Representatives	8227
11359	June 20	Establishment of the Souris-Red Rainy River Basins Commission	8851
11359A	June 29	Adding the Secretary of Transportation to the membership of the President's Council on Recreation and Natural Beauty	11049
11360	June 30	Amending the Selective Service regulations	9787
11361	July 6	Suspending a provision of section 5751(b) of Title 10, United States Code, which relates to officers of the Marine Corps in the grade of first lieutenant	10153
11362	July 16	Providing for the use of transportation priorities and allocations during the current railroad strike	10495
11363	July 20	Designating the International Secretariat for Volunteer Service as a public international organization entitled to enjoy certain privileges, exemptions, and immunities	10779
11364	July 24	Providing for the restoration of law and order in the State of Michigan	10907
11365	July 29	Establishing a National Advisory Commission on Civil Disorders	11111
11366	Aug. 4	Assigning authority to order certain persons in the Ready Reserve to active duty	11411
11367	Aug. 18	Placing an additional position in Level IV of the Federal Executive Salary Schedule	12037
11368	Aug. 28	Modifying rates of interest equalization tax and amending Executive Order No. 11211	12549
11369	Aug. 29	Placing additional positions in Level V of the Federal Executive Salary Schedule	12585
11370	Aug. 30	Inspection of income, estate, and gift tax returns by the Committee on Public Works, House of Representatives	12665
11371	Sept. 6	Establishment of the New England River Basins Commission	12903
11372	Sept. 18	Designating the Lake Ontario Claims Tribunal as a public international organization entitled to enjoy certain privileges, exemptions, and immunities	13251
11373	Sept. 20	Providing for certain transfers from the National Capital Transportation Agency to the Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority	13371
11374	Oct. 11	Abolishing the Missile Sites Labor Commission and providing for the performance of its functions	14199

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11375	Oct. 13	Amending Executive Order No. 11246, relating to equal employment opportunity	14303
11376	Oct. 17	Amending Executive Order No. 11022, relating to the President's Council on Aging	14545
11377	Oct. 23	Providing for Tariff Commission reports regarding the estimated consumption of certain brooms	14725
11378	Oct. 31	Exemption of Daniel J. Quill from compulsory retirement for age	15237
11379	Nov. 8	Designating officials to act as Commissioner of the District of Columbia	15625
11380	Nov. 8	Amending prior Executive orders relating to mutual educational and cultural exchange and to allowances and benefits for Government personnel on overseas duty	15627
11381	Nov. 8	Amending Executive Order No. 10807 of March 13, 1959, relating to the Federal Council for Science and Technology	15629
11382	Nov. 28	Amendment of Executive orders relating to functions of the Department of Transportation	16247
11383	Nov. 30	Inspection of income, excess-profits, estate, and gift tax returns by the Senate Select Committee on Standards and Conduct	17421
11384	Dec. 1	Placing an additional position in Level V of the Federal Executive Salary Schedule	17423
11385	Dec. 16	Placing an additional position in Level IV of the Federal Executive Salary Schedule	18081
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11386	Dec. 28	Prescribing arrangements for coordination of the activities of regional commissions and activities of the Federal Government relating to regional economic development, and establishing the Federal Advisory Council on Regional Economic Development	5

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Feb. 1	Letter: Designation of Acting Under Secretary of Commerce	2495
Feb. 27	Presidential finding: Morocco—finding that sales agreements are in the national interest	4051
Feb. 28	Presidential finding: Algeria—finding that sales agreements are in the national interest	4053
Apr. 22	Notice: Supplemental notice of articles to be considered for trade agreement concessions resulting from recent legislation relating principally to the duty-free treatment of certain articles	6429
May 9	Reorganization Plan No. 1 of 1967	7049
Aug. 11	Reorganization Plan No. 3 of 1967	11669
Sept. 18	Presidential finding: Morocco—finding that sales agreements are in the national interest	14885

Appendix C—Presidential Reports to the 90th Congress, First Session

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International Coffee Agreement	Jan. 19(S) Jan. 23(H)	Jan. 19
Economic Report	H. Doc. 28	Jan. 26	Jan. 26
U.S. Civil Service Commission	H. Doc. 13	Jan. 30	. . . .
U.S. Aeronautics and Space Activities	H. Doc. 49	Jan. 31	Jan. 31
Government Employees Training Act . . . . .	. . . . .	Feb. 13(H) Feb. 15(S)	. . . .
National Endowment for the Arts and the National Council on the Arts . . . . .	. . . . .	Feb. 15	Feb. 15
National Endowment for the Humanities . . . . .	. . . . .	Feb. 15	Feb. 15
U.S. Arms Control and Disarmament Agency	H. Doc. 58	Feb. 17(S) Feb. 20(H)	Feb. 17
Federal Disaster Relief Program	H. Doc. 70	Mar. 1	. . . .
Alaska Omnibus Act:			
5th Semiannual	H. Doc. 69	Mar. 1	. . . .
6th and Final Semiannual	H. Doc. 162	Aug. 28	Aug. 28
Peace Corps . . . . .	. . . . .	Mar. 6	Mar. 6
National Wilderness Preservation System	H. Doc. 77	Mar. 8	Mar. 8
U.S. Participation in the United Nations:			
20th Annual	H. Doc. 82	Mar. 9	Mar. 9
21st Annual	H. Doc. 180	Nov. 15	Nov. 15
Marine Science Activities	H. Doc. 79	Mar. 9	Mar. 9
Communications Satellite Act of 1962	H. Doc. 89	Mar. 17(S) Mar. 20(H)	Mar. 17
Automotive Products Trade Act of 1965 . . . . .	. . . . .	Mar. 22	Mar. 22
National Capital Transportation Agency . . . . .	. . . . .	Apr. 3	Apr. 3
Federal Statutory Salary Systems, Joint Annual Report of the Director of the Bureau of the Budget and the Chairman of the Civil Service Commission	H. Doc. 95	Apr. 5	Apr. 5

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<i>Subject</i>	<i>Published</i>	<i>Sent to the Congress</i>	<i>Date of White House release</i>
National Science Foundation	H. Doc. 102	Apr. 6	Apr. 6
National Capital Housing Authority . . . . .	. . . . .	Apr. 17	Apr. 17
Department of Housing and Urban Development	H. Doc. 107	Apr. 17	Apr. 17
National Advisory Council on Extension and Continuing Education	H. Doc. 110	Apr. 21(S) Apr. 24(H)	Apr. 21
Manpower Report of the President and a Report on Manpower Requirements, Resources, Utilization, and Training by the Department of Labor	H. Doc. 116	May 1	May 1
Awards Program for Members of the Armed Forces . . . . .	. . . . .	May 4	May 4
National Aeronautics and Space Administration	H. Doc. 122	May 11	May 11
Special International Exhibitions . . . . .	. . . . .	May 31	May 31
Railroad Retirement Board . . . . .	. . . . .	May 31	May 31
Surgeon General of the Public Health Service	H. Doc. 134	June 12	June 12
Office of Economic Opportunity . . . . .	. . . . .	June 22	June 22
Commodity Credit Corporation . . . . .	. . . . .	July 11	July 11
Board of Actuaries for the Retired Serviceman's Family Protection Plan . . . . .	. . . . .	July 11	. . . .
Weather Modification	H. Doc. 145	July 19(H) July 21 (S)	July 19
Atlantic-Pacific Interoceanic Canal Study Commission	H. Doc. 154	Aug. 8	Aug. 8
International Educational and Cultural Exchange Program . . . . .	. . . . .	Aug. 14	Aug. 14
Office of Alien Property . . . . .	. . . . .	Aug. 31	. . . .
St. Lawrence Seaway Development Corporation	H. Doc. 170	Sept. 25	Sept. 25
Trade Agreements Program	H. Doc. 177	Oct. 25	Oct. 25
P.L. 480 (83d Congress)	H. Doc. 179	Nov. 6	Nov. 6

Appendix D—Rules Governing This Publication

[Reprinted from the Federal Register, vol. 30, p. 15133, dated December 7, 1965]

TITLE 1—GENERAL PROVISIONS

Chapter I—Administrative Committee of the Federal Register

PART 32—PRESIDENTIAL PAPERS

SUBPART A—ANNUAL VOLUMES

PUBLICATION AND FORMAT

Sec.

- 32.1 Publication required.
- 32.2 Coverage of prior years.
- 32.3 Format, indexes, ancillaries.

SCOPE

- 32.10 Basic criteria.
- 32.11 Sources.

OFFICIAL DISTRIBUTION

- 32.15 The Congress.
- 32.16 The Supreme Court.
- 32.17 Executive agencies.
- 32.18 Governmental requisitions.
- 32.19 Extra copies.

PUBLIC SALE

- 32.22 Sale of annual volumes.

AUTHORITY: The provisions of this Part 32 issued under sec. 6, 49 Stat. 501, as amended; 44 U.S.C. 306. Sec. 6, E.O. 10530, 19 F.R. 2709; 3 CFR 1954-58 Comp.

SUBPART A—ANNUAL VOLUMES

PUBLICATION AND FORMAT

§ 32.1 *Publication required.* There shall be published forthwith at the end of each calendar year, a special edition of the FEDERAL REGISTER designated "Public Papers of the Presidents of the United States." Ordinarily each volume shall cover

one calendar year and shall be identified further by the name of the President and the period covered.

NOTE: This program started with the year 1957.

§ 32.2 *Coverage of prior years.* After conferring with the National Historical Publications Commission with respect to the need therefor, the Administrative Committee may from time to time authorize the publication of similar volumes covering specified calendar years prior to 1957.

NOTE: The Committee has approved the publication of volumes starting with the year 1945.

§ 32.3 *Format, indexes, ancillaries.* Each annual volume, divided into books whenever appropriate, shall be separately published in the binding and style deemed by the Administrative Committee to be suitable to the dignity of the office of President of the United States. Each volume shall be appropriately indexed and shall contain appropriate ancillary information respecting significant Presidential documents not published in full text.

SCOPE

§ 32.10 *Basic criteria.* The basic text of the volumes shall consist of oral utterances by the President or of writings subscribed by him.

§ 32.11 *Sources.* (a) The basic text of the volumes shall be selected from: (1) Communications to the Congress, (2) public addresses, (3) transcripts of press conferences, (4) public letters, (5) messages to heads of state, (6) statements released on miscellaneous subjects, and (7) formal executive documents promulgated in accordance with law.

(b) In general, ancillary text, notes, and tables shall be derived from official sources.

Appendix D

OFFICIAL DISTRIBUTION

§ 32.15 *The Congress.* Each Member of the Congress, during his term of office, shall be entitled to one copy of each annual volume published during such term. Authorization for furnishing such copies shall be submitted in writing to the Director and signed by the authorizing Member.

§ 32.16 *The Supreme Court.* The Supreme Court of the United States shall be entitled to 12 copies of the annual volumes.

§ 32.17 *Executive agencies.* The head of each department and the head of each independent agency in the executive branch of the Government shall be entitled to one copy of each annual volume upon application therefor in writing to the Director.

§ 32.18 *Governmental requisitions.* Legislative, judicial, and executive agencies of the Federal Government may obtain, at cost, copies of the annual volumes for official use upon the timely submis-

sion to the Government Printing Office of a printing and binding requisition (Standard Form 1).

§ 32.19 *Extra copies.* All requests for extra copies of the annual volumes must be addressed to the Superintendent of Documents, Government Printing Office, Washington, D.C. 20402. Extra copies must be paid for by the agency or official requesting them.

PUBLIC SALE

§ 32.22 *Sale of annual volumes.* The annual volumes shall be placed on sale to the public by the Superintendent of Documents, Government Printing Office, Washington, D.C. 20402, at prices determined by him under the general direction of the Administrative Committee.

[F.R. Doc. 65-13119; Filed, Dec. 6, 1965; 8:48 a.m.]

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